LACKAWANNA COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

FELLOWS

To the Honorable William C. Sproul,
Governor of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania,

This, One of Ten Original Copies
is Presented.

Eugene H Willows

History of the Activities of the People of Lackawanna County in the World War

Under the Supervision of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety.

By Eugene H. Fellows.

To the Man at the Helm,

Louis Arthur Watres,

This Work is Dedicated.

Foreword.

That one may not be obliged to read all the way through this account of the activities of the people who stayed at home and fought against the Central Powers of Europe, the work is divided into general topics; and chronology is not preserved excepting in the cases of separate movements. So that reference may be easy, a thorough index is appended.

History is a narration of the actions of men; and for this reason, and so that these pages may be a lasting record of those who served with hand and pen and speech and thinking mind, every effort has been made to strike the personal note in the telling of the story.

December 1, 1920.

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Chapter I.

Lackawanna County.

Introduction.

The gates of the Temple of Janus were kept open in time of war -- were closed when Rome was at peace. In 29 B. C. Augustus closed them. They had been closed twice before, during a period of seven hundred and twenty-five years. During the nineteen and a half centuries that have since rolled by there have been few moments when men and nations, the world over, have been at peace. War is not unnatural to mankind; and appreciation of its arts, its methods, its sacrifices, and its duties is born in every human breast.

High civilization has not yet taught the world that the horrors of war far outweigh the greatest advantages that might come to a victor. Civilization, particularly the civilization of mechanism and the creed of personal efficiency, seems to have tempted men into more frightful acts of barbarism than have sprung from the crude intelligence of the most savage of the Vandals. It was necessary that the mighty engines of our civilization of peace should be tried out as engines of war.

The Twentieth Century opened with culture and enlightenment, convenience and production, leaping forward -- each year a decade in the speed of development. The Century opened also as a century of war -- little wars, bigger

wars, here and there on the map of the world. The great disaster was bound to come; and come it did, and the American people could not be left out. It is not far from the real practical fact, that the American people entered into the war to stop it; before it was too late to find loose ends of the world's proud civilisation to tie together.

The World War of 1914-1918 leads one to believe that civilized warfare, with this war itself as the great example, is more horrible, more destructive to the very civilization that made it possible and gave it impetus, more harmful to political institutions, more demoralizing to the personal character of men and women, than any uncivilized, barbarous or savage wars, raids, or forays, ever conducted.

And a great complex struggle like the one just ended demands more from the people of the nations combatant than does a more simple affair like the Spanish War of the Boer War. It is not only a matter of going out, finding the enemy and fighting him according to the rules of military strategy; for such a war goes right down to every pulsation of industry, into every community, and into every home and brain and heart. The war was won not only because two million brave boys went into France, but because one hundred million men, women, children, fought the war with American intelligence, American progressiveness, and American individual enterprise. The Country over, the Americans at home did not have to be taught how to back the boys in France. In that the ordinary American citizen knew, even before war was declared, what would be expected of him, and how his peculiar individual efficiency could best be turned to the advantage of

the Cause, is explained the wonderful rapidity with which the United States, both in the field and at home, resolved itself into a marvellously effective belligerent.

Throughout the United States there is little difference at heart and in spirit in the communities. True, there is a vast difference in industrial interest; and there is a considerable difference in the personnel of the population. Some communities are made up almost entirely of citizens of American ancestry, while others, like this one of Lackawanna County, have a large proportion of people of foreign birth and a larger proportion of those of foreign parentage. When a community like Lackawanna County, with its twenty-seven languages, and its twenty to thirty percent of people commonly speaking no English or little English, can make a perfect piece of work of its practical patriotism in time of war, there is no reason to fear for the continuation of real patriotism the country over, whether in war or in peace.

The War Spirit
Organized.

At the beginning of the war the great desire in Northeastern Pennsylvania was "to do some thing about it." It was not at first necessary to reach people with propaganda. Every third man was a propagandist himself. So much began "to be done about it", so many individuals started in to fight the enemy, so multifarious became the organizations, the drill squads, the self-appointed committees of public safety and committees of vigilance, the volunteer watchmen over possible alien sympathizers, that on the very day Congress de-

clared war, these informal committees began to assume an organization on a somewhat solid basis. This organization soon became the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety; and during the whole war, under the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety, it was the most powerful agent in the County, really taking precedence, through their courtesy and patriotism, over all governmental agencies. It shows the mutual regard in which the governmental agencies and the Committee held each other, that there was never a clash of authority or a conflict of prerogative during all the time of the activity of the Committee.

The Abingtons.

The area of Lackawanna County is 451 square miles. The County is divided by two parallel mountain ranges into three divisions. These divisions, primarily geographical, are also industrial, commercial, and social. To the north and west of the western range is a wide agricultural district, known as the country "north of the mountains". For Northeastern Pennsylvania it is quite fertile and contains some valuable farms. Within the County in this district are two flourishing towns and several hamlets. The towns are Clark's Summit and Dalton. There are six boroughs and eight townships in this district, a part of which is generally known as the Abingtons. Many people in business in Scranton live in the towns along the Lackawanna Railroad and the trolley line; and country residences of Scranton people dot the hills. The permanent population of this wide stretch of country, about half the area of the County, is only 9,488.

Abington Committee
of Public Safety.

Nevertheless, it is this country north of the mountains in Lackawanna County that claims the first organization of a committee of public safety, asserts that much of the constructive work of fighting the war here at home emanated from its organization, and it boasts of the first independent home guard for the preliminary drilling of future soldiers, perhaps in the United States. Much credit for the early activities of this district is due to its residents who were engaged in business in Scranton. The Abington Committee of Public Safety, acting under the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety, later, will be referred to in due course. It is remarkable, though characteristic, that a valuable exemple in organization sprang from a district inhabited by fewer than ten thousand people.

Eastern End
of the County.

South and east of the eastern mountain range, or Moosic Mountains, lies another country district, much poorer, much more rugged, and far more sparsely settled than the agricultural district to the north. Three boroughs and seven townships lie in the eastern end of the County; and the population there is but 3,758. There is one thriving town, Moscow, and a smaller one, Elmhurst. At the beginning of the war this side of the County organized later than did the Abingtons, less completely, and under the direct instructions of the County Committee of Public Safety.

Agricultural Districts
of the County.

In both the agricultural districts there was the strongest spirit of effective patriotism throughout the whole war: as was so be expected from a population almost entirely American born, of American parentage, and generally of American ancestry. Besides the companies of minute men, whose organization had the practical effect of giving the boys a little advance instruction before they enlisted or were drafted, and had the moral effect of placing some thing patriotic before the eye; the real work of the farming communities was just what it was the country over -- to produce -- produce -- produce. Many a lawn was turned into a potato patch.

Lackawanna
Valley.

Between the parallel mountain ranges lies a narrow valley, from one to five miles wide. Within Lackawanna County it is thirty miles long. In Lackawanna Valley live 271,571 people. It is in this valley that coal deposits exist; and in the Valley are all the manufacturing industries of the County. The population is decidedly mixed, people from every European country and descendants of all European races living almost side by side in every one of its eighteen municipalities. Thousands never speak the English language; and in two of the towns it is said that as many as eighty percent of the people speak a foreign language within their own households and in their own circle of acquaintances.

Naturally, since ninety-five percent of the population of the County, almost all its commercial wealth, all its

mining and manufacturing, are located in this long narrow valley, the real war strength and the real war activity of the community was in the Valley. Ideas and example and rapidity of action came down to Scranton from the Abingtons; but with the city of Scranton as the center, the real war strength of Lackawanna County was in this populous and wealthy valley.

With a couple of breaks, the thirty miles of valley is one long town. The municipalities merge one into the other along the county road with scarcely an indication that you are out of one town and into the next. Beginning at the north there are Vandling Borough (1,258), Fell Township (5,242), whose town is Simpson, Carbondale City (18,645), Carbondale Township (1,653), Mayfield Borough (3,832), Jermyn Borough (3,326), Archbald Borough (8,603), Winton Borough (7,583), whose town is Jessup, Blakely Borough (6,55[illegible]), whose towns are Blakely and Peckville, Olyphant Borough (10,256), Dickson City Borough (11,0[illegible]1), Throop Borough, (5,671), Dunmore Borough (20,250), City of Scranton (137,901), Lackawanna Township (3,053), whose town is Minooka, Taylor Borough (9,884), Moosic Borough (4,36[illegible]), and Old Forge Borough (12,264). The population figures are those of the census of 1920.

Contributions of Lackawanna County to the War.

What had Lackawanna County to offer the Cause of its Country in time of war? Just as had hundreds of other communities, we had to offer the products of manufacturing and agriculture, a high moral and practical patriotism, and our share of fighting men. Different from all but a few other counties in

the United States, Lackawanna County could and did contribute anthracite coal.

Agriculture.

The agricultural products of Lackawanna County are not sufficient to supply the local market. It is probable that, even with the shortage of labor during the war, the production was increased over twenty percent. The farmers and the war-gardeners did their duty; and they were helped in the performance of their duty by the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety.

Manufacturing.

The manufacturing industries of the County are decidedly varied. During the last two score years this valley has ceased to be only a series of mining towns. A far greater number of individuals are engaged in industry, in total, than in mining. Although coal temoted the industries here, the industries will exist long after the coal fields will have been exhausted. Each one of the cities and borough, too, has its commercial business, just like other towns of similar size the country over. Because one may travel the length of Lackawanna Valley without being at any moment unable to see a coal breaker, and because so many of our people are immigrants or the sons of immigrants, should not deceive those at a distance into the belief that Lackawanna County is a crude mining community. Its industrial, business, and social organizations are merely average, plus the presence of anthracite coal deposits.

Some of the manufactures of Lackawanna Valley are clothing, caskets, silk, bricks, hats and caps, brewing, underwear,

cut stone, chemicals, bedding, buttons, iron and steel products of almost all kinds, glass and glasswear, lace, pumps, silk machinery, cloth of several kinds, tobacco, steam furnaces and fixtures, typewriters, candy, ice cream, and bakery products, of course, wood fixtures, shoes, wagons, overalls, mine supplies, phonograph records, pianos, white lead, brass, lead, gloves, flour and feed, knit goods, optical supplies, leather goods, embroidery, automobile trucks, furnaces, cigars, cabinet products, rugs, harness, paint, paper boxes, jewelry, window shades, boilers, grates, locomotives, railroad cars, drills, waists, stoves, cement, bobbins, powder, dynamite.

Until recent years the most important of the manufacturing industries was in the various sorts of iron and steel products; and it may be that the value, in total, of these products is still the greatest. But the industry at present the most remarkable in the County, and the one other than mining having the greatest number of plants, is the silk industry. There are over sixty silk mills in Lackawanna County, employing some fifteen thousand women when working at full capacity, and several hundred men and children. Next to Paterson, New Jersey, the vicinity of Scranton is the largest silk producing district in the United States.

Coal.

There were white settlements in Lackawanna County before the Revolutionary War. Land was cleared, and this part of the State became a sparsely settled agricultural and lumbering country. The discovery of anthracite coal and the development of mining caused the County to leap forward with tremendous increases in population between 1850 and 1900.

Coal mining brought here not only the population, but wealth, business, manufacturing, banking, and a particularly well patronized market. The County, even though it no longer shows a big increase in population, seems almost always to be enjoying a business boom. Perhaps the spending power of its inhabitants had no little effect upon certain phases, such as buying bonds and contributing to war work funds, of their effectiveness when war came.

In the City of Scranton alone there are twenty-seven coal breakers and washeries, and altogether thirty-three openings into the mines. Contiguous to Lackawanna County on the north is Forest City, the northern limits of the coal field. Including those in Forest City there are one hundred and ten coal breakers, or separate coal operations -- separate mining "plants" -- in Lackawanna Valley. Each one produces a number of cars of coal a day, varying, of course, according to the size of the operation. Some few of the shafts, or openings into the mines, tap as many as ten veins of coal, one lying under the other. The capital invested in these operations aggregates hundreds of millions, the smaller proportion of it invested by local financiers.

The anthracite coal mined before the war in Lackawanna County supplied the local domestic market, supplied the immense local industrial market, and still left at least eight times as much coal to be shipped away as was used in both these markets.

Before the war all the local and distant markets were so easily supplied that the mines rarely worked full time. Since the beginning of the war in Europe it has been with increasing difficulty that enough coal could be mined. The demand

during the war and since the war has been far greater, mining has been more rapid, and the coal in many mines, through extensive mining, has been harder to get at and harder to mine.

From the point of view of providing mechanical supplies for the war, Lackawanna County's pre-eminent duty was to furnish anthracite coal. It did so, under ever increasing difficulties; the main difficulty being with labor.

Labor.

In the first place, eleven thousand young men went into active service. Many of them were miners.

The tendency has been for men as their American intelligence increased, to get out of the mines into cleaner, safer, more desirable employments. This is not a rule, for there are many men who would not from preference work any where but in the mines; but it is the case in enough instances to affect mine labor in times of crises. Originally, the miners were Welsh and Irish immigrants. To-day most of the miners are late arrivals -- Italians, Magyars, Slavs, Poles, Russians, Slovaks. There are fathers in the mines who will not let their sons become miners.

The eleven thousand men who first and last went into service left vacancies in other industries that brought some men up out of the mines and made it hard to find new labor to go down into the mines.

It is also estimated that five thousand men left Scranton, permanently or temporarily, to seek employment at ship yards and war-industrial plants. There were three or four thousand more throughout Lackawanna County, who were tempted away by the loud call of high wages. This exodus

left another set of vacancies in the mines, and another in the industries; and the resulting labor shortage in the mines was a most serious worry. Every time there was a departure to the army or the ship yards, the shortage fell ultimately on the mines and the farm.

The war industries of Lackawanna County were of some importance to the Cause; farming, just as it was everywhere, too, was of great importance, although the farm products of Lackawanna County are not really a drop in the bucket; but the one vital necessity in time of war, that we could produce and must produce, because of the limited area from which it could be produced, was anthracite coal. It was one thing we had that most other people had not. The many problems arising from the shortage of labor were met, coped with, and solved by the Committee of Public Safety, as will be seen, co-operating constantly with coal operator, labor organization, and the Government. It is a matter of pride, and not well known because the immense difficulties are not generally appreciated, that the emergency war organization of Lackawanna County performed one of its greatest services in that Lackawanna County did not fail in its shipments of coal. It is quite reasonable to believe that the great war industries would have been badly -- fatally -- crippled with a lessening of the supply of anthracite coal; and it must be understood that mining operation at a fever heat as well as every other war operation depended largely upon war organization and a high public opinion fostered by this war organization.

Patriotism.

Mechanical appliances, food, supplies, clothing, the

product of the farm, the mill, the mine; these are essential to the conduct of war. But with all these, if the spirit and ardor of personal patriotism fail, there might better be no attempt at any offensive against Kaiser and Kaiserism of any sort or kind in Europe -- there might better have been no defense against him had he trod France and England underfoot and sailed the Atlantic to levy upon us the expenses of the war against Truth and Right. After all, human spirit, in the field and at home, won our battles for us in this day, just as it won for the ten thousand Athenians at Marathon on that far distant day.

It would be preposterous for any community in the United States to claim pre-eminence in patriotism. True, some localities have enjoyed a "bad eminence" as being centers of pro-Germanism, anti-war socialism, or other obstructionism. Almost every city, town, county, hamlet, and country-side did its duty as its inhabitants saw their duty -- at times with ardent noise, at times in stern silence.

"Organized
Patriotism."

Patriotism and patriotic public opinion supported every war movement. The pre-eminence that Lackawanna County may claim over some localities is in this: Patriotism and patriotic public opinion and private opinion, the desire of some to fight, the necessary desire in others to support from home the fighting men, will go far of themselves. But to get the full, one-hundred-percent effectiveness from patriotism and patriotic public opinion, there must be organization. The private, the sergeant, the captain, the colonel in the

army can not be left to fight the enemy according to his own rules and at his own convenience. The army must have a very close and rigid organization, based upon discipline and subordination. The people who stay at home and support the army, numbering one hundred at home to four in the army, must have at least a loose organization, that their patriotism be not thrown to the winds in purposeless exertion.

Council of National Defense
Committee of Public Safety.

In performing home patriotic duties during the war, no citizen of Lackawanna County was ever for one moment in doubt as to where to look for advice, direction, and help, in making his individual patriotism useful. Excepting in farming sections any citizen of Lackawanna County could reach an official of the Council of National Defense in less than half an hour in person, and in less than ten minutes on the telephone. Every town had its local committee of public safety, constantly in touch with and acting under up-to-the-minute instructions from the central offices of the County Committee.

We had, then, in Lackawanna County, not only patriotism, and not alone organization, but we had <u>organized patriotism</u>.

And the patriotism of the people was organized so well that every wheel, personal, social, industrial, and financial, ran smoothly and with a maximum of speed, from the beginning to the end of the war. Sometimes the Council of National Defense picked up movements already under way and rendered them successful; more often it supplied both the initiative and the energy. Occasionally it stopped plans that were foolish, unnecessary, or wrong.

Alien
Sympathizers.

It is certain that the thoroughness of the organization of the Council of National Defense had a most salutary effect on possible alien sympathizers within the County. Almost the first thought of every regularly appointed or self-appointed Committee of Public Safety was to watch for trouble. The writer took his turn with others in guarding a railroad bridge in the Abingtons against a possible bomb outrage, which would have seriously hampered war-traffic on the Lackawanna Railroad, a main artery between Buffalo and New York. For months all the coal breakers and shafts were guarded. Now, there was never a bomb exploded in the County during the war; and no one knows or says that there was ever any attempt or any intention or any idea of exploding a bomb. And it is impossible to guess whether this over-carefulness on the part of the committee was a prevention of outrage or was merely wasteful of energy.

German
Residents.

Moreover, there is a large German population in Lackawanna County, particularly in Scranton. Many of these Germans were born in Germany; many are rather recent arrivals. Some of them are not citizens of the United States. A native of Germany -- a true American citizen -- served well, loyally, and wisely on the Executive Committee of the Lackawanna County Council of National Defense.

The war is over. The German thunderstorm is passed. We have drawn the teeth of its lightning from the clouds. Let us look back with what kindness and charity we have in us on the

years of 1917 and 1918. The Germans living in Scranton, many undoubtedly loyal to this their adopted land, others just as undoubtedly throwing all their moral sympathy to the land of their birth, did not cause a ripple on the surface. They were a menace to the imagination when the war started -- a menace that dwindled to nothing as German boys donned the uniform and German men went about their business as did other people. Sometimes a whisper was quoted, sometimes a sullen silence marked a man -- but nothing ever happened. The question is well worth asking: Did the superb effectiveness of the home war organization render overt acts of treason so sure to fail that none dared speak treason or do treason?

Educational System of
Lackawanna County.

In considering the war strength of Lackawanna County, its educational systems should not be lost sight of. True, there is nothing extraordinary in the schools of the County. They strike the American average. The systems are not under one local guiding executive. Thirty-one smaller districts, with their local school boards, look for educational direction to the county superintendent of schools. The two cities, Scranton and Carbondale, and the nine boroughs of Archbald, Blakely, Dickson City, Dunmore, Old Forge, Olyphant, Taylor, Throop, and Winton, have their own superintendents of schools; and with their school boards, have no educational co-operation, except as it comes through the State Department of Public Instruction and that which is voluntary. Yet the work of these educational systems for a generation proved itself in 1917 and 1918; and the magnificent co-operation of all of them with the activities of the Council of National Defense during the war, demonstrated the

practical value of American educational institutions.

As were the colleges of the country used to the full by the Government, so were the schools of Lackawanna County made the most of by the local and county committees of public safety.

Patriotism in
our Schools.

School teachers differ considerably in their ideas as to how a given subject should be taught; and their opinions vary as to what matter is most essential to be drilled into pupils' intelligence. But it is safe to say that most school teachers in Pennsylvania have during the past two decades spent a great deal of energy on the subjects of American ideals and personal, moral, and practical patriotism; and teachers have had much to tell children and youths about American citizenship and its duties, blessings, advantages,and responsibilities. Not only in Pennsylvania, but the Country over, it may be said that the schools have unknowingly been preparing manhood and womanhood for this war during a long generation just as truly as, and in a far better, more elevated manner, than the German schools have been preparing their boys for "der tag."

Some teachers make a point of giving lessons in patriotism to all pupils; and some do not. And there are some subjects, history and civil government, for instance, in the teaching of which it is naturally requisite to bring up and discuss this lofty human attribute. But no pupil, be it in the public schools, or the parochial or private schools, goes through his allotted years of training without meeting some teachers who have an especial aptitude and an especial enthusiasm for the subject of moral and

practical American patriotism. That this is the fact has been the Nation's most valuable asset, to which coal, gold, and wheat are almost secondary; and the results have always a mighty influence in peace and in war on the whole Country. The American people had been educated in the best possible way to fight a war; and with this education inside of them, there was no doubt that they would win it.

We are in the habit of believing that the schools of Lackawanna County had gone somewhat farther in this education in patriotism and citizenship than most communities in the Country. In commerce, the demand often begets the supply; and so may it be in education. There is a certain peculiar educational demand in Lackawanna County.

Americanization.

Lackawanna County has a large proportion of foreign-speaking people. Americanization, as a principle or a necessity, is not new with us; although it is only now, after the war, that concerted and organized effort is being made to Americanize the adult. But always we have been Americanizing the children. It has been more necessary to teach Americanism, in all its many phases, in schools where a third, a half, two-thirds, four-fifths -- in school rooms where all -- the pupils come from homes where English is not generally spoken, and who have as parents men and women who were born in Europe and have not the ability and have not been taught the inclination to explain to their children what our institutions mean. The fact that it has been necessary to teach many of the school children of Lackawanna County American ideals and customs has occasioned that teaching and that knowledge to be emphasized in the minds of all

our children -- many of them now middle-aged men and women, many of them veterans of the World War; and it has made our schools hot-beds of patriotism.

School Population.

At present, in 1920, the total population of Lackawanna County is 284,617. The number of pupils attending the public schools, including night schools, at the close of the school year of 1919-1920 was 57,192. This is about twenty per cent of the population. In 1914 the number was not considerably fewer, because the former rapid increase in our local population had slowed down, the increase in total population of the County being only about 25,000 from 1910 to 1920. It is certain that over 50,000 pupils attended our schools during the war. What a magnificent home war strength lay in these 50,000 children, even in those who were very small, properly organized and sensibly handled! It must be kept in mind that superintendents, principals, teachers, almost without exception, made the fighting of the war paramount, and the "three R's" secondary for the time.

Educational Preparedness.

The Nation had from August, 1914, to April, 1917, to get ready for war. Many of us believed war was bound to come. Many of us believed we could keep ourselves aloof from the European struggle. Our wishes guided our opinions. But whichever opinion the individual held, he prepared for war, voluntarily or involuntarily, in wisdom or in ignorance. And so it was with the school teachers and their pupils. Even in classes in Arith-

metic, Algebra, and Chemistry, the war in Europe and America's place in the international imbroglio, were discussed. In the writer's classes in History, often was the text-book thrown aside for days at a time. Men in schools -- Professor Michael J. Costello is a notable example -- had for fifteen years been interjecting Americanism into classes in all scholastic subjects; and they now made newspapers their text-books in part. Such teachers played their part before the war; and they played it over again in public affairs on a broader field than the school room during the war.

It was the school system, more than any other institution, that had become perfectly prepared for war by the time it was declared; and this preparation was effective far beyond the school room.

In what may be called American families parents sometimes hear discussions by their children of the day at school. Although in these American families the boy and girl may often bring into the home circle a new idea from the school room, the relationship is superiority in intelligence and knowledge on the part of the parent, subordination of intellect in the child. As between what the teacher says and what Dad says, "Dad knows". In Lackawanna County about a third of the children go home into families where this relationship is reversed. The parents expect their children to possess more school knowledge and more American knowledge than they can ever gain themselves. The teacher is a fountain of information. The parents, sullenly perhaps, and silently -- secretly and ashamed -- but truly, nevertheless, get many of their ideas from their children who go to the American school.

Propaganda through
the Schools.

From August, 1914, to the present time, two years after the close of the war, the school children have been mighty propagandists for patriotism, for preparedness, for war activity, for citizenship in peace, for Americanism and Americanization, and for social respectability. In sending messages into the families of the foreign born, the messages have been made so emphatic to all the children, that many a self-satisfied old-time American family has been strengthened in its patriotism by hearing the message sent primarily to others. Many an American has had to polish up his own Americanism to keep pace with the ardor of a native of Europe.

The Schools
as a Practical
Aid in War.

Schools and school children, besides being useful in spreading propaganda into every home in the County in the best way possible, that is, in doing it without knowing just what they were doing, helped the Cause during the war in many more direct practical ways. A large number of the fifty thousand children assisted in most of the drives for money, including the five sales of bonds, and they contributed small sums that swelled into no inconsiderable amount. The girls used their hands in fabrication, many of the boys helped in gardening and farming and in the industries. No hand or mind or tongue was idle all the time and many were active constantly.

Graduates in
Active Service.

Of course, no school exists which does not boast of graduates in active service; and there were high school boys who left school and went to war.

Dunmore.

Dr. Charles F. Hoban, Superintendent of Schools of Dunmore, has the records of eighty-one graduates of the Dunmore School System who were in the service; and Dunmore mourns the loss of three of these.

Technical High
School.

Mr. Ronald F. Gleason, Principal of the Technical High School of Scranton, reports the names of two hundred and eighty-nine enlisted men and commissioned officers, of whom three lost their lives in the service.

Saint Thomas
College.

Brother Philip, President of Saint Thomas College, Scranton, states that of graduates and of those matriculated, two hundred and ten were in the armed forces of the United States, and that ten of them died or were killed in action.

Central High
School.

Mr. Albert H. Welles, Principal of the Central High School of Scranton, has the records of one hundred and fifty-

four Central High School boys in service, of whom fifteen did not come back home.

These proud records are only typical of the school systems of the County, the State, and the Nation.

We must never forget that in a thousand ways our great American educational system was in our war every hour for the very principle upon which it is founded -- real Democracy.

The Foreign Born.

A very large minority of the residents of Lackawanna Valley are recent immigrants and their children; and of these a considerable number are not naturalized. Of some six hundred who have come to the writer on the question of naturalization during a year and a half, about forty were discharged soldiers. That is merely an evidence that many alien friends entered the army from our County.

The people of foreign birth and parentage who live among us are by no means a blot upon our social landscape, a menace to our community organization, a trial to our business man or industrial operator. There are plenty of people of intelligence, even with education, among them; the average being somewhat lower among recent arrivals than among those who immigrated a generation or two ago, or among those of American ancestry, because the call to America of late years has sounded loudest to the uneducated of Europe. Take an educated European, and he becomes an educated American pretty soon without the "Americaniser's" persuasion, for the simple reason that he knows what education is and what its advantages to him will be. The

uneducated laborer from Europe is content to remain the uneducated, unassimilated laborer of America,, unless it be proved to him that he will earn more money by learning the English language and American ways.

There are all sorts of moral codes among the people of foreign extraction, just as there are all sorts of moral codes among the rest of us. That our criminal court records are replete with foreign sounding names means less than some are inclined to think. A thorough inquiry into the question might demonstrate that the recent immigrant is a child rather in the hands of those who would impose upon him. Imposed upon, he gets mad; and failing to understand the law of the land, he gets into trouble by making reprisal by some short cut, or like the inarticulate man he is, by hitting somebody with some thing. No halo of virtue should be placed above the heads of our foreign born -- they are just human, that is all. But people who do not understand the situation should not frown upon them for faults they have been taught by the unscrupulous, for weaknesses due to an ignorance that it is a duty of government to remedy, nor blame them for a suspicion that sharpers have caused to be justified. They are strangers in a strange land; and they have learned only this -- that they can get help only by paying much money for it. They encounter many more difficulties than we do, right next door to us; and they live generally in a most deplorable fashion, packed together in miserable hovels. No, it is not good enough for them; and it is very bad for all of us that they do so, and it will be very bad for those who come after us, unless conditions are corrected. It would be the life work of several big, strong, wise men and women to American-

ize our foreign born, not so much in language as in living.

The Younger
Generation.

Their children, and this is the grandest part of their story, are becoming more truly American each day, under the care of our school system. The hundreds of young men who went forth from such homes to fight, came back with an inestimable increase of Americanism and American ideals and aspirations within them. Certainly the effect upon the neighborhoods to which they returned can not be lost.

The Foreign Born
in War.

In regard to the spirit in which our foreign born residents took up war activities, it was hard to see much difference between them and any other element of our population. Perhaps there was a smaller number of leaders and a larger proportion of followers among them. And there was a smaller number of men with their hands in their pockets among them. Natural instinct, European training -- some thing made them keen in war. And where they may have done nothing else, they mined the coal.

Leaders among the
Foreign Born.

It must not be supposed either, that there were no leaders among them; and upon these leaders the committees of public safety and the Council of National Defense placed much reliance; and the Council had no reason to be disappointed.

Throwing out of consideration people who have come to

us from the British Isles, who are not in the question of Americanization at any time, any way, there are many im igrants and sons of immigrants from mid-Europe who are leaders in business, industry, society, in all parts of the County. One of the most successful business men in Scranton came here as an adult from the Czecho-Slovakian territory of Hungary. There has been an interesting though unconfirmed rumor that this gentleman was spoken of for the presidency of the Republic of Czecho-Slovakia -- or was tendered the honor. A new European Republic could do little better than to place the guidance of its affairs in the hands of the successful business man, trained in a representative American community that offers every inducement to enterprise and intellectual attainment. So it is, that the foreign born among us are a most valuable element in the every-day life of the community.

Contributions
of the Foreign
Born.

They are more saving and frugal as a rule than those of American ancestry. It is therefore positive that next to keeping our mines to a great extent, and our industries to a less extent, in operation by supplying labor during the war, the great thing contributed by the foreign born was money. They had it. Away out of proportion to their earnings did they buy bonds and give to war work campaign funds; and in giving they did not hesitate and they did not argue and they did not dodge.

In rallying to the Colors it is believed that they did just about their share; and so it was in the sacrifice of life in the war. It has been said that there were not many claims for exemption among them.

Gold Stars.

About four hundred and fifty men from Lackawanna County lost their lives in the war; and two hundred and fifty of these were from the City of Scranton. It appears from the names that seventy-four of the two hundred and fifty were of mid-European or south-European stock. Thus run the names -- the Scranton list -- in order: Allen, Alvord, Athas, Barber, Bartoli, Batula, Baxter,-- Weiss, Williams, Wisniewski, Ward, Wood, Yarasunas, Yusliawylka. Were a similar illustration made from the county list, the proportion of those of foreign extraction would be seen to be greater. Here, for instance, is the complete roster of the Borough of Archbald, under the letter "A"; Ackerman, Aggentovich, Aguello, Antenorio, Anthony, Apogli, Appleton, Appolinari.

The Thirteenth
Regiment.

In organized military strength, Lackawanna County took pride in its Thirteenth Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania. Headquarters of the Regiment and eight companies were within the County. Besides, there was a company of engineers.

The regiment was organized some forty years ago, had had experience several times in strike duty, and had gone through the Spanish War; and it had just returned from a long tour of duty on the Mexican Border when war broke out. It was under the command of Colonel Ezra H. Ripple, Jr; and a former commander of the Regiment, General Frederick D. Stillwell was for a time in command of the Twenty-eighth Division. Lieutenant Colonel E. H. F. Conrad, Major Robert M. Vail, Major Ralph A. Gregory, and Major Laurence H. Waires were field officers of the

Regiment. In this connection it may be added that Colonel David J. Davis, a former officer of the Thirteenth Regiment, embarked for France as Adjutant-General of the Twenty-eighth Division, and served in that capacity until he became a member of General Pershing's staff. Colonel Davis is now (1920) Departmental Commander of the American Legion of Pennsylvania.

Among the regiments of the National Guard the Thirteenth had a magnificent record in the past. Thousands of us have belonged to it; and so it was with a universal feeling that it would bring honor home to us that the people of Scranton saw it depart to the mobilization camp.

One Hundred and Ninth Infantry
One Hundred and Third Engineers
One Hundred and Eighth Machine Gun Battalion.

The expectation was more than justified. Combined with the First Infantry of Philadelphia into the 109th United States Infantry, our regiment went through the tour of duty of the Twenty-eighth Division -- the Iron Division -- fourth in the number of casualties. From Chateau-Thierry to the Argonne, the 109th, 103rd Engineers, and the 108th Machine Gun Battalion, part of which organizations were Lackawanna Boys, made a fighting record for themselves not surpassed by the soldiers from any part of the Country. A history of the war as it was fought would lay great stress upon the hard fighting engaged in by Major R. M. Vail, and his 108th.

Volunteers and
Drafted Men.

Volunteering was general in Scranton and throughout the County up to the time it ceased by governmental mandate. Most drafted men went away as cheerfully as did the volunteers. The

The proportion of our young men -- and older ones, too -- at officers' training camps was fairly great; and the number of members of the Students' Army Training Corps was becoming very large at the time of the end of the war.

Number of Men in
Active Service.

The total number of men in active service from Lackawanna County was about eleven thousand, out of a population (1920) of 284,617.

Chapter II.

The Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety.

One would delight in the occupation of writing the history of the boys of Lackawanna County who served in the World War; of recounting the experiences of the many units and of the Divisions of which they were members; of relating the acts of heroism of which we who stayed at home will always be proud. But another pen than this, wielded by one who had the honor to wield the sword or shoulder the rifle, must tell of those who arose to the roll of the drum.

Our responsibility at present lies in another direction. It is simply to speak of the less heroic service that was performed here at home that those engaged in actual warfare might have every possible ounce of support. Men, the same American fighting blood coursing quick in their veins, made speeches, hoed potatoes, sat in conference, shoveled coal, solicited money, their longing eyes fixed overseas on the fields of Flanders, Champagne, and Picardy.

It is rather difficult to make a statement as to the exact time when the people of Lackawanna County began to wage war against the Central Powers. Like every other community, we got into the war gradually, each month with increasing rapidity. In June, 1916, an immense preparedness Parade, 18,000 in line, took place in Scranton. From that time until March, 1917, almost every one was getting ready for war -- in his own mind and in his every-day discussions, at any rate. There was nothing

stunning or surprising to the people of Lackasanna County in the Declaration of War. We were ready.

Pennsylvania
Committee of
Public Safety.

Early in March, 1917, the Committee of Public Safety of the State of Pennsylvania began to take shape; and on March 21st, Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh appointed ex-Lieutenant Governor Louis A. Watres of Scranton a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety. On March 23rd Colonel Watres accepted this appointment, which was to serve on a war board of eleven members, the Chairman of which was Mr. George Wharton Pepper. The people of Lackawanna County could well be proud that one of its most prominent citizens, a native of the County, was invited to take his place on a small council whose responsibility was to bring into action all the forces, industrial, commercial, mineral, agricultural, and most of all, moral, of the great State of Pennsylvania, that the Nation might win its war with expedition.

Lackawanna County
Committee of
Public Safety.

At the same time that Colonel Watres was called upon to take his place among the war councillors of the State it became his duty to assume charge of the organization of his own county for the war. In perfecting this organization Colonel Watres had, first, a thorough knowledge of local conditions and a complete understanding of the people upon whom he would call for service and of the capacity for certain services of each person upon whom he would call; secondly, he had very soon after war operations

began, the outline of the departments that should be organized, prepared by the Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety, of which he was a member; and most of all, he had the universal respect and admiration of the people of Lackawanna County, which made the whole population willing to follow his lead in all public matters. This outline of departments was sufficient with which to begin operations, and it may be said that the organization followed it to the extent of about fifty percent during the whole war. Some departments turned out to be of little use, or were not enthusiastically conducted; while activities not considered at the opening of the war came to be of great moment later.

Besides Colonel Watres, Mr. David Boies, Honorable J. Benjamin Dimmick, Mayor H. B. Jermyn, and Mr. Edward J. Lynett were appointed members of Governor Brumbaugh's Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety of two hundred. Governor Watres advised daily and oftener with these gentlemen during the earlier days of the war, mapping out future activities, receiving and discussing personal offers of assistance, and arranging for possible contingencies.

The Rising
of the People.

If one wants to find out who were active during the war in Lackawanna County, he must look through the directories and the voting lists. The citizens all over the County were following their natural impulses, bred by months of looking forward to no sudden war, and were organizing themselves. The story of the Abingtons, first in point of time, is not only typical of the ability of Americans to organize themselves; but it also shows that initiative needs no orders. And, too, this story shows trueness of spirit, in that the effort of the whole Abington or-

ganization, all that it had accomplished, all its plans, were placed completely at the disposal and under the orders of the County Committee, the only desire of its members being to serve patriotically in the way that they could serve best.

Abington
Committee of
Public Safety.

Before the war had been declared Captain Albert J. Breig, president of the Clark's Summit -- Clark's Green -- South Abington School Boards, called a mass meeting for the organization of a Committee of Public Safety at the Clark's Summit School house for April 6. 1917. Without authority, a committee of public safety was appointed, which served through the war, for the fourteen municipalities of Benton Township, Greenfield Township, Scott Township, North Abington Township, La Plume, Dalton, Glenburn, Waverly, West Abington Township, Clark's Summit, Clark's Green, South Abington Township, Newton Township, and Ransom Township. This Committee consisted of one or more representatives from each of these municipalities; and the representative from each municipality was responsible for the appointment of a local com ittee of public safety within his borough or township.

Nothing could have been more practically effective than the Executive Committee and the local committees within the Abingtons. They conducted during two years patriotic meetings in the hamlets, in school houses, in grange halls. They organized over this wide agricultural district drill squads of a dozen boys and men -- middle aged, some of them -- in some little towns, up to one hundred and twenty in Dalton and over two hundred in Clark's Summit. In looking back on those days not so long past we might

think this drilling entirely unnecessary, and a little amusing, It should not be so. It brought men together two or three or four times a week, particularly every Sunday afternoon. It showed spirit. Never did men get together that there was not a discussion of American affairs and of the place the community had in these American affairs. Besides the drilling there was public speaking, and business, and, more than any thing else for this farming country, a discussion of questions relating to agriculture.

The gentleman in charge of this drilling throughout all the Abingtons was Captain Albert J. Breig; and he was ably assisted by Captain Joseph S. Waite and Mr. John Culkin. Just as occurred everywhere else, the boys of the Abingtons wanted to volunteer to go to war in one unit. Application was made to the War Department to allow them to volunteer as part of a new regiment. Of course, the draft provisions made this impossible just as they made the lamented Theodore Roosevelt's plan for a division of fighting men impossible. But it is believed that this indulgence in drilling, in which every young man was obliged by public opinion to take part, gave increased enthusiasm to the boys who later went into the army, and made the number claiming exemption much fewer, and gave them at least some preparation for their future military duties. It is stated that the number of boys from this part of the County who became commissioned or non-commissioned officers was far out of proportion to the number in service. It all counted.

The Abington Committee of Public Safety was as follows: Eugene H. Fellows, Chairman; Captain Albert J. Breig, W. H. Widdowfield, Clark's Green; Dr. William L. Lynch, Edward D. Morse, Secretary, Frank J. Stanton, George H. Nichols, Clark's Summit; Dr. Robert B. Mackey, Samuel Hall, Waverly; Dr. E. A. Fuller,

Dalton; Captain Joseph S. Waite, James E. Edwards, Glenburn; E. L. Alexander, South Abington Township; G. A. Post, Benton Township; Sanford Wedeman, Greenfield Township; Reese Harris, La Plume; Oscar Coon, Newton Township; Frank Smith, North Abington Township; Frank Coon, Ransom Township; Herbert Newton, Scott Township; Alvah Ross, West Abington Township. This method of organization and its personnel was so satisfactory to the Lackawanna County Executive Committee that it was adopted without change; and the plan of having local commissions or representative citizens also, leaving to them the organization of their municipalities under instructions from the Executive Committee, was so wise that it was adopted throughout Lackawanna County. The members of this Committee were later commissioned by the Governor of the State.

As the war began, many duties confronted the Executive Committee of the Abingtons; so that for the first two months of operations, until the Lackawanna County Committee established a central war office, this Committee met nearly every evening and issued directions throughout the Abingtons that were followed without demur. In the course of time drilling became less important and the first care that German sympathizers might not destroy any part of the Lackawanna Railroad became negligible. The main interest of the Abington Committee was for a time providing seeds and labor for the farmers, and later still in the question of finding help for the harvests. At first the Abington organization was highly important in arousing enthusiasm, in showing how enthusiasm could be aroused, in furnishing an example of organization, and in placing its people on a confirmed war basis. After the County organization became perfected its duties were rather those of a committee for a farming district. Nevertheless, its very frequent patriotic meetings all through the war were so notable

that they attracted hundreds of visitors from the City, who went "North of the mountains" to see a real sod-fashioned American mass-meeting. On the Fourth of July, 1918, for example, there was a parade in the Borough of Clark's Summit so long that the streets of this town of 1500 people could not hold it, the participants, for the only time in the history of the Abingtons, coming from every one of the fourteen towns north of the mountains.

Every duty imposed upon the Abington Committee of Public Safety was performed quickly and easily. All the County was just as strong, patriotic, and capable; but it was in the Abingtons that initiative was best displayed, and it was there that organized patriotism was first developed.

Members of the
Lackawanna County Committee
of Public Safety.

Chairman Watres received during the first few weeks of the life of the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety hundreds of offers of assistance, and tons of advice, it may be said; and so did Mr. Boies, Mr. Dimmick, Mayor Jermyn, and Mr. Lynett. The offers were of all kinds, some specific, more of them general. Under instruc ions from Governor Brumbaugh, Colonel Watres on April 9th appointed the following committee of public safety. This large committee, like the Committee in the Abingtons, and like the Committee of the state and for the several counties, had a two-fold duty and a double responsibility. In the first place its members were members of the general Committee for the whole County; in the second place, since the members of this general Committee were selected from the wards of the City and from the boroughs and townships of the County, they were expected to be largely responsible for the present and fu-

ture conduct of war activities in their respective communities, and were at liberty to surround themselves with local committees or organizations. The members:

Archbald -- John J. Kearney, Albert Kinback, P. A. Philbin.

Benton Township -- G. A. Post (Abington Committee).

Blakely (Peckville) -- Frank P. Banjamin, F. L. Northup, W. W. Jones.

Carbondale -- L. A. Bassett, Sheriff P. F. Connor, Mayor James J. Loftus, T. V. Powderly, Jr., D. E. Spencer, J. Norman Gelder, William Hamilton.

Clark's Green and Clark's Summit -- Albert J. Breig, [illegible]. H. Widdowfield, William L. Lynch, Edward D. Morse, Frank J. Stanton, George H. Nichols (Abington Committee).

Covington Township -- E. Cobley.

Dalton -- Dr. E. A. Fuller (Abington Committee).

Dickson City -- W. A. Meehan, John Aiken.

Dunmore -- P. A. Barrett, Edward Cawley, J. T. Fear, A. F. Golden, E. F. Ferris, Dr. Charles F. Hoban, Charles P. Savage, R. A. Zimmerman, Frank E. Swartz, M. J. Ruddy.

Elmhurst -- R. E. Prendergast, U. G. Schoonmaker.

Glenburn -- Joseph S. Waite, James E. Edwards (Abington Committee).

Greenfield Township -- Sanford Wedeman (Abington Committee).

Jermyn -- John Cure, John B. Griffiths, A. G. Gebhardt, Thomas Hunter.

Lackawanna Township (Minooka) -- John J. Coyne.

La Plume -- Reese Harris (Abington Committee).

Mayfield -- Thomas Hart.

Moosic -- Joseph P. Jennings, Joseph J. Jennings, James Hailstone.

Moscow -- Joseph E. Loveland.

Newton Township -- Oscar Coon (Abington Committee).

North Abington Township -- Frank Smith (Abington Committee).

Old Forge -- Frank Berger, Frank R. Coyne, T. J. Stewart, John Cook, John Corcoran.

Olyphant -- E. S. Jones, T. J. Rogan.

Ransom Township -- Frank Coon (Abington Committee).

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George H. Nichols (Abington Committee).

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Olyphant -- E. S. Jones, T. J. Rogan.

Ransom Township -- Frank Coon (Abington Committee).

Scott Township -- Herbert Newton (Abington Committee).

Scranton -- John H. Brooks, Paul B. Bolin, John E. Bradley, L. M. Bunnell, John M. Beaumont, Robert J. Bauer, H. H. Brady, Michael Bosak, W. C. Bruning, Valentine Bliss, Thomas Beynon, W. E. Boileau.
John J. Costello, A. J. Casey, Duncan T. Campbell, D. J. Campbell, George W. Clarke, Eugene A. Cusick, Alfred E. Connell, M. J. Costello, E. C. Campbell, Walter H. Courson, Alexander T. Connell.
Hugh A. Dawson, Frank Dickert, Griffith T. Davis, H. G. Dunham, John F. Durkan, John J. Durkin, F. K. Derby, G. T. Davis, R. W. Day, Lona B. Day, D. J. Davis.
Henry M. Edwards, Fred C. Ehrhardt.
Mortimer B. Fuller, Eugene H. Fellows, John J. Fahey, David Fowler, W. F. Forster.
Charles Gutheinz, C. H. Genter, Frank A. Goodall.
Max Henkelman, Harry C. Hubler, Frank Hummler, Frank Hagen, P. F. Howley, F. L. Hitchcock, John W. Howarth, C. F. Henne, Peter W. Haas.
W. W. Inglis.
John R. James, R. G. Jermyn.
Isadore Krotosky, Henry A. Knapp, John D. Keator, Albert J. Kolb.
James A. Linen, Jr., J. A. Lansing.
Thomas Moore, W. S. Millar, Patrick McLane, S. J. McDonald, Thomas Murphy, B. B. Megargee, J. F. Mears, W. A. McConnell, E. L. Merriman, H. C. Manchester, John G. McConnell, James Moir, J. S. McAnulty, Willard Matthews, John M. McCourt, James F. Mitchell.
Martin J. Nealon, E. C. Newcomb.
C. P. O'Malley, James J. O'Neill, E. E. Oppenheim, Joseph O'Brien.
Cole B. Price, James M. Powell, Justin E. Parrish, Frank E. Platt, F. L. Peck, Benjamin S. Phillips, Charles J. Phillips, John E. Roche, John Reynolds, Otto Robinson, Ralph W. Rymer, E. K. Roden, P. J. Ruane, G. Fred Royce.
Worthington Scranton, George B. Smith, H. M. Stack, F. W. Stillwell, Thomas H. Saville, Peter Stipp, Harry A. Smith, M. F. Sando, E. B. Sturges, A. H. Storrs, Samuel Samter, Jacob Smith, John E. Scheuer, G. F. Sanderson, J. R. Schlager, George E. Stevenson, G. Lynn Sumner.
Benjamin H. Throop, J. H. Torrey, John R. Thomas, Morgan Thomas, A. C. Twitchell.
John Von Bergen, Frank M. Vandling.
Silas P. Walter, Victor Wenzel, C. S. Woolworth, Ralph E. Weeks, Albert L. Watson, William Wirth, John H. Williams, George Wahl, C. S. Weston, A. B. Warman, Fred Wormser, Albert Westfahl, Maurice Willows, Mrs. C. S. Weston. E. M. Zehnder.

South Abington Township -- E. L. Alexander (Abington Committee).

Spring Brook Township -- A. B. Kilmer.

Taylor -- David F. Davis, James Powell, John P. Thomas, James E. Watkins.

Throop -- Joseph Birtley.

West Abington Township -- Alvah Ross (Abington Committee).

Winton (Jessup) -- Joseph P. McAndrew, B. J. McGurl.

Organization.

Colonel Louis A. Watres, occupying the positions of member of the State Executive Committee and Chairman of the Lackawanna County Committee, was called upon to attend meetings in Philadelphia twice a month and at the same time keep his hand on the helm in Lackawanna County. So ably were his plans fulfilled that his County perfected its organization earlier than did any other county in the State. On May 9, 1917, this was done in Scranton so completely that Colonel Watres reported at the meeting in Philadelphia on May 10th, that Lackawanna County was at war in every sense of the word.

Over two hundred members, each one commissioned by Governor Brumbaugh, from all parts of Lackawanna County, met in the rooms of the Scranton Board of Trade and organized under the rules laid down by the State Committee. The following was the personnel of the organization.

Executive Committee -- Colonel Louis A. Watres, Chairman, Frank Hummler, Treasurer, G. Fred Royce, Secretary, David Boies, William Corless, Honorable J. Benjamin Dimmick, Judge Henry M. Edwards, Honorable David Fowler, Mortimer B. Fuller, W. W. Inglis, Honorable E. B. Jermyn, Edward J. Lynett, Willard Matthews, Worthington Scranton, Dr. J. M. Wainwright, Charles S. Weston, George E. Stevenson, Mrs J. Benjamin Dimmick, and later Mayor Alexander T. Connell.

Departments -- Administration, Charles S. Weston, Finance, John H. Brooks; Publicity, G. Lynn Sumner; Legislation,

Honorable Hugh A. Dawson; Speakers, Major T. Frank Fenman.

Relief, Willard Matthews; Sanitation, Medecine. Alfred E. Connell; Civic Relief, Maurice Willows.

Equipment and Supply, W. W. Inglis; Materials, H. C. Manchester; Plants, E. M. Zehnder; Motors and Motor Trucks, Colonel Frank M. Vandling.

Service, Worthington Scranton; Civilian Service, Paul B. Belin; Military Service, John M. McCourt; Naval Service, E. K. Roden; Guards, Police, amd Inspection, Lona B. Day.

Transportation, Mortimer B. Fuller; Railroads, Charles J. Phillips; Electric Railways, R. W. Day.

Agriculture, George E. Stevenson.

Gardening, Mrs. Charles S. Weston.

Food, Charles A. Belin.

Each member of the large general Committee was assigned to some one of the departments or divisions, and throughout the war these departments and divisions were supposed to perform the duties that from time to time became necessary. Some of them had little or nothing to do; some had more than enough to do. At times, too, the work of one division was all-important and it was helped by the members of other departments; while a month or a week later it could rest, when the work of another department would assume essential importance. The establishment of a war office and its development later in the war also relieved individuals of some of the departmental business.

The Central
Office.

Many people, including the writer, repeatedly suggested

to the Executive Committee that there should be a central war office, a clearing house for all business and all questions relating to the Committee of Public Safety and war matters. Mr. G. Fred Royce, Secretary of the Committee, came to the conclusion that he could not properly act as Secretary and conduct his own business, and asked that some one devote all his time to the details of war business. So, during the first six weeks of the war, offices were procured, an executive secretary went to work on a salary, the Agricultural Preparedness League went into the same offices, and later the Employment Bureau and the County Farm Agency. These offices and these officials were at all times under the direction of Colonel Watres, whose hands, during all the time of the war, never left the reins. His guidance was most essential to success.

The Executive
Secretary.

As the war progressed some thing occurred that the State Executive Committee had not anticipated. It was most necessary that men should carry on their own business, so that there should be no falling behind in industry or commerce; and that war business should be the extra, or additional interest. The details should be in the hands of people who could devote their whole time to them. The Executive Secretary, devoting all his attention to war business, was able to perform many of the duties originally thrown upon the divisions and departments; acting generally under the advice or direction of the heads of the departments. His office, too, did most of the clerical work.

The first Executive Secretary was Mr. Melchior H. Horn,

who occupied the position from May 12, 1917, to August 15, 1917, when he entered the active service of the United States. Mr. G. Fred Royce occupied the position ad interim until November 1, 1917, when Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson added the work of Executive Secretary to his other duties and performed them until August 5, 1918; when he entered the army as First Lieutenant of Engineers. The last Executive Secretary was the writer, who occupied the position until the end of the war; and, the Executive Committee considering it necessary for purposes of reconstruction, until August 1, 1919.

Soon after the writer became Executive Secretary he fortunately procured the services of an experienced and talented assistant, Miss Helen M. Mullen. Upon her advent into the central war offices, the Executive Secretary was able to assume at Colonel Watres' suggestion, the position, practically, of war administrator, Miss Mullen taking charge of all the secretarial functions of t e Committee. Many of the gratifying compliments sent from Philadelphia through Colonel Watres to the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety for the methods pursued in the transaction of routine business, were due to this arrangement, and to the painstaking attention given to office detail by this young lady; and to the fact that because of such competent and dependable assistance the titular Executive Secretary was at all times free to engage in the work of organization and administration.

Chapter III.

Food Supplies.

One of the first public war acts of the Committee of Public Safety was to register the men and women throughout the County in line with the instructions of the State Executive Committee. The Women's Committee managed this, under the chairmanship of Mrs. J. Benjamin Dimmick. It was conducted in May, June, and July, 1917, and gave the community and County committees an insight into the qualifications of all individuals for both routine and emergency service. And all-important was the registration for food conservation and food production.

One of the highly important enterprises of the County Committee of Public Safety was the responsibility of the County for food supplies. There were more difficult phases of this question than of any other, even the labor question -- increased production with decreased ability to produce on the part of the farmers, the establishment by every one with space for them of war gardens, the providing of farm labor, the utilization of waste ground for community gardens, the production of novel food supplies within the household, and, almost the most essential war operation at home, conservation of food by everybody -- producers, distributors, consumers, the hotel, the grocer, the kitchen.

What the quarter of a million people of Lackawanna County did toward producing food and economizing in the use of food differs lit le from what was done by the rest of the hundred million. Under the leadership of the Committee of Public Safety, however, certain plans were undertaken, rather striking

in their good sense and originality, to alleviate certain conditions, that the objects desired might be attained with enough rapidity to be of immediate assistance to the Cause; without waiting for the food crisis to come to meet it.

Farming in Lackawanna County.

Before the war the average wealth and reserve capital of the farmers of Lackawanna County were low. It must be understood that the farms of the County are rather poor, as a rule, of small acreage of tillable land, stony, and hard to work. Probably the most valuable crop is that of potatoes. In the spring of 1917 seed potatoes were so expensive that the farmer was in doubt as to the advisability of buying seed potatoes at the market price, or even of planting those he had saved which he could sell for domestic use at a high price; when by so doing he must run the risk of working all summer over a crop which he might have to sell in the fall at so low a price that his gain would be slight. The Abington Committee of Public Safety brought this matter strongly to the attention of Governor Watres.

Loans to Farmers.

To encounter this possible obstacle to producing a maximum of food supply from the farms, and to encounter other obstacles traced to a want of capital, it was planned to loan money in small amounts to those farmers needing it most. The Agricultural Preparedness League, Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson, Secretary, was organized, with the farmers of the County as members. A number of carloads of seed potatoes were shipped into the County, together with some

other vegetable and cereal seeds; and they were sold to the farmers at a price considerably lower than the market price, so that it might pay the farmers to plant potatoes. Wealthy citizens of Scranton made up a fund of about $15,000, part of which was expended in this subsidy, and the greater part of which was loaned to farmers on their personal notes. In the course of two years these loans were repaid and most of the money found its way back to the gentlemen who had advanced it. The deficit, due to expense, was less than had been expected. The enterprise was well planned, but carried out with indifferent success; but it had undoubtedly the effect of giving vigor to the agricultural production of the County, in demonstrating that the Committee of Public Safety meant business, and it increased the food supply at a time when every potato and every grain of wheat counted, no matter where in the United States they were produced.

Farm
Labor.

All through the war the question of farm labor was a most vital one. Even before the war, had it paid him to do so, the farmer could have produced more had enough labor of the right kind been available. In regard to experienced labor the farms were hit very hard by the war. In Lackawanna County the best "hired man" is the farmer's own son. The son wanted to go to war; and he went, either as a volunteer or a drafted man. He didn't want any exemption. In the papers and correspondence of Mr. Stevenson, Secretary of the Agricultural Preparedness League and later Executive Secretary of the Committee of Public Safety and United States Employment Agent, constantly recur statements to the effect that

not only active service, but the industries also, were drawing labor from the farms; and that the adult labor that the bureau was able to send to the farms was inexperienced, lazy, and unsatisfactory.

The Agricultural Preparedness League and the Farm Labor Bureau, both departments under the supervision of the Committee of Public Safety, made every possible effort to solve the labor problem for the farmer. The following extracts from a report of June 18, 1917, just at the beginning of difficulties, show what efforts were being made to stimulate production in Lackawanna County.

> "Up to date we have $3500 subscribed. Loans up to $2600 have been made to responsible farmers who would double or materially increase their acreage of staple crops.
>
> "Backed by an offer to purchase ten thousand bushels of potatoes, the League is making contracts with farmers to take the product from their additional acreage.
>
> "An employment bureau has been maintained and several hundred laborers have been directed to the farms.
>
> "A potatoless week campaign carried on in the City resulted in hundreds of bushels of old potatoes being sent back to the country for seed. Several cars of potatoes have been purchased and re-sold to the farmers at cost. We have a car on the switch this week.
>
> "Options on two thousand bushels of seed buckwheat were secured from the millers in this section to be re-sold to the farmers at cost.
>
> "Food investigation disclosed the fact that 1000 cars or forty million pounds less food were shipped into the City during the last year than during the preceding year. This is a 20% decrease in the food supply. We looked for a corresponding reduction in the garbage and found a one per cent increase. Warnings are being published in the newspapers to be more saving."

School Boys
on Farms.

Through the city high schools and borough high schools, the Boys' Working Reserve, boys' industrial leagues and similar institutions, there came a great many offers to help in farm work.

Boys too young to go to war and untrained in the mechanical trades were considered available for many types of farm work. Under the officials of the Committee of Public Safety many boys were sent to the farms during the summers of 1917 and 1918; and in two or three places camps of boys were established under a responsible superintendent, who sent the boys in small groups to the neighboring farms during the day. The Boy Scouts brought much credit to themselves by engaging in farm and garden work. Although reports from farmers did not show any great enthusiasm for the amount of help given them by the boys, in most cases, yet it is certain that without this emergency assistance the production in the County would have been much less. It all counted.

Farm
Production.

Whatever the obstacles, the officials of the Committee of Public Safety co-operating with the farmers succeeded in increasing the food production of the County at least twenty per cent. It must be understood, however, that it is a law of human nature that man is commercial; and he may more often than not be high-principled in his patriotism and at the same time commercial It conformed to both the patriotic spirit and the commercial instinct of the farmer to produce all the food-stuffs he could during the war. Never before had the farmers of this part of the State the opportunity to make a real economic profit, and he had usually made an indifferent wage; and never before had it appealed to him as a patriotic duty to produce all he could. Never before had anybody cared whether he produced or didn't produce. And it must have been a shock to his sensibilities to have every governmental and voluntary agency begging him to sow and reap. There-

fore, commercial instinct as well as the efforts of the Committee was responsible for the increase in farm produc ion.

Farm Labor
Manager.

In order that the farm labor problem might be handled as capably as possible a special agent working under the direction of the Committee and its Executive Secretary, was employed with the title of Farm Labor Manager in the spring of 1918. The first Farm Labor Manager, Mr. John F. Ruddy, a newspaper man, combined the duties of Farm Labor Manager and publici y writer; in both of which capacities, working through the office of the Executive Secretary, his work was most satisfactory. He had hardly begun when he entered the service in June, 1918. He was succeeded as Farm Labor Manager by Mr. Dayton Ellis, Principal of the Dunmore High School, who was able to devote his whole attention to this patriotic duty until September. By that time he had so systematized the work of supplying farms with emergency labor that he carried on the work together with his educational duties until the end of the war to the great satisfaction of the farmers of the County. A report of the Executive Secretary, October 1, 1918, reads in part as follows:

> "Mr. Ellis' Labor report for the past week is: Applicants for positions, 16; calls for help, 15; placements made, 11; calls for help unfilled, 10.
>
> "This is an average weekly report, a little below normal if any thing. The Lackawanna Valley, with its two hundred and fifty thousand people, is practically allof the market for the produce of the people living to its east and west, and the market for much imported farm produce as well. When these farmers come to market they take back men to help them in emergencies. In addition to this our farmers co-operate with each other in the exchange of labor to a very great extent. They fall back on Mr. Ellis in cases of extremity; and so, as a result of these conditions, Mr. Ellis' report of placements made amounts to only a small percentage of the number of persons who hire out to the farmers during each week. Mr. Ellis also constantly co-operates with the Lackawanna County Food Administrator, Mr. Charles A. Belin, in gathering information of all

sorts relating to agricultural and food problems throughout the County.

The Executive Secretary's report of November 1, 1918, reads as follows:

"During the epidemic, Mr. Dayton Ellis, Farm Labor Manager, has supplied the farmers with a great many school boys, who have picked the apples, helped dig potatoes, and assisted in harvesting late crops. It is estimated that the farmers are farther ahead in their work than they have ever been before at this time of year."

And it would not be amiss to grasp the opportunity to read Professor Ellis' final report.

Dunmore, Pa., November 30,1918.

Mr. Eugene H. Fellows,
Executive Secretary,
Committee of Public Safety,
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Mr. Fellows:

My appointment as Lackawanna County Farm Labor Manager expires to-day. The office was originally designed as a war emergency service and now that the war is over the need of it no longer exists.

In closing up my work I wish to submit a brief report of farm labor activities in Lackawanna County since I entered upon the duties of the office on June 22nd last. During that time over two hundred and fifty men and boys and four women have been sent from the city to work on nearby farms. While this is the most tangible evidence of the season's work it does not represent the sum total of the assistance given the farmers in solving the labor problem. During the summer I visited every part of the County to investigate labor conditions first-hand, to encourage the farmers to co-operate with each other by the exchange of labor. My township Farm Labor Representatives, all of whom were practical farmers, also did good service in advising and encouraging their neighbors. I had at least one such man in each agricultural township in the County.

I also improved opportunities offered to me by addressing numerous gatherings of farmers. At the Orchard Demonstration and Stock Judging Contest, held on the E. E. Gritman Farm, East Benton, August 27th, upwards of three thousand farmers were present. I spoke to them of the work of the Department and showed them that a proper distribution of farm labor could be brought about only by a co-operation of all parties interested.

At different times during the summer, I furnished information to the Lackawanna County Food Administrator, Mr. C. A.

Belin, regarding the damage done to sheep by dogs; and also of the efficiency of threshing machinery throughout the County; and concerning the condition of the season's growing crops.

In addition to the organization of my township representatives, whose placements of farm labor are not in my records or my report, I assisted Mrs. Black of Philadelphia with the organization of the Society of Pennsylvania Farm Women in our County.

I wish to adknowledge the generous assistance given me during the summer by Mr. A. J. Bevan, County Director of the United States Boys' Working Reserve, and also by Mr. Paul B. Belin, Chairman of the Commitcee on Civilian Service. I especially appreciate the great courtesy and valuable assistance given me by Miss Mullen of your office.

In closing I wish to say that I believe that we have in this County as intelligent, progressive, and patriotic a class of farmers as can be found in the United States. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Dayton Ellis.

Organization
for Food
Supply.

It was realized by men and women throughout Lackawanna County that the questions of food production and food conservation were to be of primary importance to the people who were to fight the war at home, even prior to the Declaration of War by Congress. As can readily be appreciated, the people of the County did not await orders but exercised ordinary initiative. In all parts of the County, committees, large and small, self-appointed or appointed by local mass-meetings, took up the questions of food production and conservation in their own sensible way. These questions appealed especially to the women; and throughout the war the questions relating to the food supply enlisted the interest of practically all the women of the County.

The Committee of Public Safety, from the central

Executive Committee cut through every ramification of this large and comprehensive organization, was cognizant of the way in which questions of food supply were being handled in all parts of the County. Colonel Watres, presiding over frequent meetings of the Executive Committee, was kept informed by constant correspondence and by personal reports of the activities of these at first semi-independent food organizations. There was always a disposition throughout the war on the part of the good people of the County, to be a part of the Committee of Public Safety and to adhere closely to the plans and programme outlined by the Committee; because the object of every individual was to do his share in winning the war, and it was seen by all that organization was necessary. Without any talk about discipline, some thing very like discipline prevailed.

It is remarkable that whenever Mr. George Wharton Pepper or any of the chiefs or administrators of departments under him, sent a mandatory order or a suggestive direction to the Committee under Chairman Watres, Lackawanna County was already prepared by the initiative of its citizens or the forethought of Colonel Watres and his Committee, to put the order of suggestion into immediate effect.

Food
Administrator.

On November 13,1917, Mr. Howard Heinz, Director of the Department of Food Supply of the Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety, wrote the following to Colonel Watres.

"While we realize that Lackawanna County has an organization well fitted to handle the problems of the Department of Food Supply, we are anxious to get a general outline of the condition of all organizations in the state and will appreciate it very much if you will write to us at once, giving us in a measure an outline of preparations made by you for the handling of food problems, which we will be called upon

to solve.

"Judging from the recent increased activities of the Federal Food Administration at Washington, it will be but a short time before we are called upon to do some important work and we realize the importance of having a thorough organization in every county. We would particularly like to know what success you have had in appointing township sub-committees, which we feel are so essential in reaching every vicinity....."

The organization was all here -- had been, for months, It was so satisfactory that nothing had to be done in regard to local sub-committees. The food question had become vital, and the central management of it so complicated, however, by this time, that Colonel Watres recommended to the Executive Committee of the County, November 15, that a Food Administrator for Lackawanna County be appointed, to work under the direction of the County and State Committees of Public Safety.

On November 1[illegible], 1917, two days after Mr. Heinz had written to Colonel Watres, Mr. Charles A. Belin was appointed Food Administrator, a position which he occupied until after the end of the war. No more happy an appointment could have been made. The business interests of Mr. Belin had always been within the City of Scranton. His residence, for some time previous, had been and still is, in the Borough of Waverly, in the midst of the agricultural district "north of the mountains". Incidentally, he was burgess of Waverly. He had a deep inderstanding of public affairs from the standpoint of the successful business man of Scranton; and he had been able to make a study of food production through his acquaintance with the farmers of the Abingtons. He was so situated, personally, that he could devote and did devote practically his whole attention to the administration of the department to which he was appointed. He turned his office in the Connell Building into a war office in which he and his assistants

dealt in matters relating to sugar, potatoes, pigs, poultry, butter, and groceries. He employed his own office help and called upon other citizens for volunteer aid when a shortage, say of sugar, required immediate attention. His office, too, became a bureau of information; and from it all sorts of bulletins on food topics were distributed.

It is impossible to narrate all the activities engaged in from this office. There were many vexing problems that were necessarily small and of merest detail -- just as highly important as the big questions of policy. How to can vegetables, for instance, was second in importance only to how to raise vegetables. This department, too, in its administration was obliged to deal in a different way with each of many retail and wholesale merchants; and, since new questions on food supply and food conservation arose weekly, sometimes daily, Mr. Belin, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Cahoon were constantly taking up new phases of the food problem.

At one time the great bulk of the work done consisted of personal calls made by retail merchants and the redemption of canning certificates made to them to their customers. In each case Mr. Belin or some one of his assistants was obliged to give three, five, sometimes ten minutes; and to make out sugar purchasing certificates to cover the canning blanks returned by them. These calls ran as high as one hundred and fifty a day. At times three or four people were busy in Mr. Belin's office almost continuously all day long on this one branch of the work.

As an illustration of the exercise of war authority, when it became necessary Mr. Belin declined to allow any of the retail merchants to sell sugar for canning purposes on canning blanks, and required all customers who desired sugar for canning to call per-

sonally at his office. This entailed still more work and brought an additional hundred or more individuals, mostly women, to the office each day with an explanation, separate, different, and personal, of course, as to just what they wanted sugar for. Many a family history did Mr. Belin listen to. But Mr. Belin was sure that in handling the matter in this way, dishonest people were deterred from securing sugar from their grocers and using it for other purposes than canning. The illustration demonstrates how comprehensive a view of conditions the Food Administrator had, and what pains he was at to perform his duty.

Prices.

He also held weekly price meetings at which various members of the Retail Merchants' Association, representatives of the wholesale merchants, and representatives of the chain stores met with him. Prices and profits were discussed, and the proper prices governing essential commodities were decided upon. A representative of the Carbondale Merchants' Association came nineteen miles every week to attend these meetings and to take back and put into operation the report in his city. Reports were sent to Mr. Heinz and to the National Food Administration at Washington and were published in all the newspapers in the County.

Refused
Shipments.

The office of the Food Administrator took up the questions of refused shipments and unloaded cars standing on switches beyond the freight period allowed by the Railroad Administration. The shipments were inspected and the cause of refusal ascertained.

Mr. Belin and Mr. Martin held a number of hearings in cases of refused shipments and in practically every case succeeded in properly adjusting the matter and in having the goods unloaded. Finally, as a war measure, Mr. Belin insisted in every case that the goods be unloaded and the goods be thereafter laid before his department. He openly announced that as food administrator he would not tolerate any unjustifiable refusal of goods.

Investigations.

The Department of Food Administration, supported by the Executive Committee of Public Safety, brought in special investigators to conduct investigations in various corporations as to the unwarranted increased price in several of the essential commodities; and it is presumed that this investigation had its effect upon keeping prices from advancing too rapidly.

A complete investigation of the flour situation was made, and every wholesaler was required to file the names and addresses of all persons or firms to whom they sold flour. The Food Administrator found a number of irregularities in the sale of flour and unearthed a great deal of hoarding. The matter was thoroughly advertised; and hoarders came to be classed by the public in the same category as slackers.

Bakeries.

In connection with the office of Food Administrator the division of Bakeries was established, with Mr. Paul Williams as lieutenant-baker of the County. This division, with a clerk on duty continuously, checked up bakers' reports, sent out information, circulars, and instructions to bakers; and an inspector was em-

ployed to inspect bakeries and to check up stocks and the use of substitutes; and each baker's report was subjected to the closest scrutiny.

Next to the office of the Executive Secretary the office of the food Administrator was the most busy place in the City, there being innumerable personal calls at the office and thousands of telephone calls each month.

Hog and Cattle
Census.

Late in the war, that is, in October, 1918, Mr. Belin received instructions to conduct a hog and cattle census of the County. He had made very extensive preparations to have this census a complete one, having enlisted the services of every local unit and member of the Committee of Public Safety, and of all the educational systems. The terrible visitation of the epidemic of influenza delayed this and many other plans until after the Armistice; and the census was never taken.

Plans for
the Future.

Mr. Belin's war administration of food closed with many far-reaching plans for the coming winter, spring, and summer in mind; and one of these plans, at least, continued in operation in Lackawanna County for just about two years after the war.

It would be very difficult to exaggerate the importance of the services of Mr. Charles A. Belin and his department during the critical stages of the war. The Executive Committee and the Executive Secretary had that one immense problem taken almost entirely off their hands, thoroughly confident at all times that

the problems of food production and food conservation were being handled by a mature and able man who was doing at the time nothing else. I can not refrain from mentioning that Mr. Belin paid all the expenses connected with the Department of Food Administration of the County himself.

War Spirit.

Besides the practical management of the matters connected with food production and conservation, from before the beginning of the war through to the end and after the end of the war to the present time, the Committee of Public Safety, the Executive Committee, the press representatives and the newspapers, combined with the citizens themselves to build up a strong feeling of conscience in regard to war duties and civic duties. Food Administrator Belin in his practical management never let the people forget the moral side of the question. The people were shown that it was not a matter of what they as individuals could afford to use, but what the Nation could afford, that counted. Production and conservation were regarded as the highest patriotic duties.

Fair Price Commission.

That set of operations which found its origin in the work of the Food Administration during the war and continued to live after the war as a public enterprise was the organization and continuation of the Fair Price Commission. The able advisor, who always stood side by side with him in all emergencies, of Mr. Belin, was Mr. M. J. Martin, one of the most prominent lawyers at the Lackawanna County Bar. During the war Mr. Martin paid par-

ticular attention to that branch of the Food Administration relating to prices; and he viewed and administered the matters before him largely from the legal standpoint.

After many of the necessities of food administration had ceased, Mr. Martin continued at the head of a voluntary Fair Price Committee. Mr. Donald B. Cahoon, acting as voluntary secretary of the Committee, spent many hours upon its work. The Committee was made up of several retail and wholesale merchants of the City, and of some others. During 1919 it met weekly, determined upon the prices of staple commodities, published schedules of prices in the newspapers, and used the moral support of public opinion to compel adherence to these prices. The most important result attained was to make profiteering so very unpopular that the merchant profiteer always ran the risk of being boycotted by his customers. It is certain that the buying public was saved a great deal of money by the zeal and good judgment of Mr. Martin's Committee.

Under the Lever Act of 1917 this Committee toward the end of 1919 began prosecutions against some few profiteers, principally on dealings in sugar. It can not be said that the prosecutions were attanded with any other success than the frightening of some merchants who might otherwise have been unscrupulous in their dealings with customers. It must be understood that up to January, 1920, this Committee or Commission was voluntary and without any authority save that which was received from public opinion.

Early in 1920, immediately after Governor Frank B.McClain had been appointed Federal Fair Price Commissioner for Pennsylvania other citizens than this Fair Price Committee began to take a lively

interest in the questions of price, profits, and food and commodity supplies generally. Mayor Alexander T. Connell, in his official capacity, took a deep interest, and issued several proclamations on the questions of profiteering. Always a deep student of the problem of food supplies, Mr. Seth W. Shoemaker, President of the Rotary Club, and during the war the originator and manager of the Curb Markets, planned at a banquet held early in January to have Mr. McClain discuss high prices and the means whereby they could be reduced. At the last minute Mr. McClain telephoned from Lancaster to the writer, stating that he could not come to Scranton until later, and asking the writer to take his place; who spoke at the banquet as follows:

"In representing Governor McClain to-night I am by no means taking his place. That is impossible, as you who know him, as you who have enjoyed his eloquence and studied his sound doctrines, are well aware. The speakers of the evening will discuss the question before us. Still, I can not refrain from offering for your deep consideration some of the elements of the great problem that confronts the American people.

"1. It is futile to talk about normal prices. The uniform increase of prices is normal according to every economic law. What we must do is to cause that increase to cease where it is unfair, illegal, unreasonable, or not uniform.

"2. Prices do not mean value. Currency is inflated and money is cheap. Cheap money and corresponding high prices have been a boon to half the population, throwing three, four, six times as much income into their possession. One whose income has not kept pace with prices suffers. Part of the problem, then, is to find a method of properly distributing wealth, not by any prescription of the socialist, but by an overhauling of the wage and profit scales.

"3. No increase can stand alone. Every increase in price breeds increase in other prices and in wages; every increase in wages causes increase in other wages and in prices.

"4. Hundreds of thousands of people, wage earners and business men, have suddenly jumped from limited means to a prosperity that has suggested extravagance in living and an excess of entertainment. No one regrets their good fortune; but the wild extravagance and general lack of frugality and thrift of the American people of to-day has given the profiteer an opportunity he has quickly grasped. If the

American people would cease emulating the proverbial drunken sailor a long step would be taken toward stabilizing prices.

"5. Commodities all spring from raw material. Most prime necessities spring from the raw material produced on the different sorts of farms. There are not enough producers of raw material proportionately andthe proportion steadily grows smaller. Keep the boys on the farm.

"6. The pirate who takes advantage of the wild rush of the world and adds as many cents or as many dollars as he can to his selling price should be suppressed. The producers, individuals or corporate, the jobber, the wholesaler and the retailer, are all entitled to compensation and a fair profit, but let the profit be no more than fair. The laborer is worthy of his hire but the laborer is not worthy of twice his hire It behooves every American not to add a few cents or a few dollars to his selling price; and it equally behooves every American not to add a few cents or a few dollars to his buying price

"What are we going to do about it?

"The Honorable Frank B. McClain, ex-Lieutenant Governor of the State, Executive Director of the Commission of Public Welfare, has been appointed Federal Fair Price Commissioner of Pennsylvania. He will have and exert the authority of the National and State Governments through the Commission of Public Welfare in investigating and correcting excessive prices.

"The appointment of Governor McClain to this difficult and important post is a most happy one. By training and experience, in wisdom and patience and fairness, he is most fitted to fulfill onerous duties. If the wisdom of any one man, if the passing of statutes, or the fiat of government, could solve this problem, we would not have to assemble here to talk.

"Governor McClain instructed me to make what statement seemed proper, which I have done; and to say the following for him.

"It was his wish that he address you to-night. The business upon which he would be with us is keeping him elsewhere. It is only recently that he has added that of Fair Price Commissioner to his other duties. Together with officials of the Department of Justice he is now formulating his policy.

"He send you his regards and congratulations that you are earnestly desirous of ridding this part of Pennsylvania of profiteering. He hopes to bring you official help in the movement; and frankly asks you for your help in cleaning the State of unfair prices. He promises to bring to you personally in the very near future -- next week, I believe -- the definite policy of the Government and the strong arm that goes with it.

"And both Governor McClain and I formally and officially request that you appoint conferees to meet with Mr. McClain, that you may give him your views of the local situation, and that he may publicly announce through your conferees the policy and plan of the Commission and the Department of Justice, in

dealing with the question so that prices may ultimately be adjusted with fairness to consumer, producer, and distributor."

Illness prevented Governor McClain from reaching Scranton until January 28th; and so the conference did not take place as soon as was expected. In the mean time the earnest men who had been serving on the Fair Price Committee felt that since so many different elements of public opinion were taking a lively interest in the question of prices, the work of the Committee in the past was considered a failure, was misunderstood, or was not appreciated. It was doubtful, too, in their minds, whether Governor McClain intended to upset their arrangements, based upon war experience, or to stamp their work with his approval. The writer therefore took temporary authority upon himself to address the Fair Price Committee on January 16th, to the effect that in the absence of Mr. McClain, and until he did come to Scranton, the Fair Price Committee should continue. After discussing the economic and personal questions involved, he said:

"Therefore, besides asking you for the immediate present to continue your burdensome work, I advise you for the good of the cause in which we are all interested, to accept the support that law and public opinion can give you, without jealousies and without any sign of personal antagonism. Let the status quo be preserved, and let Lackawanna County lead the State in bringing about civic, commercial, and economic improvement. I sincerely hope that in the very near future you will be able to confer with Governor McClain."

These two addresses are of some consideration in that upon them was based the organization and in a measure the policy of the Fair Price Commission in Lackawanna County and the economic view of the question of prices until the cessation of the activities of the Commission on November 1st. Instead of relieving the war committee of its duties Governor McClain gave this committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Martin his warm approval for their independent past actions. Mr. McClain, January 28, 1920, in the offices of the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Welfare in Scranton, met with

several influential citizens of Scranton, and discussed the organization of the Fair Price Commission for the future. There were present Mr. James S. McAnulty, President of the Scranton Life Insurance Company and President of the Scranton Board of Trade, Mr. Edward J. Lynett, owner of the Scranton Times and one of the original members of the Executive Committee of the Committee of Public Safety, Mr. M. J. Martin, Chairman of the Lackawanna County Fair Price Commission, Mr. Seth M. Shoemaker, Manager of the Scranton Curb Markets and President of the Rotary Club, Mr. Mark K. Edgar, Secretary of the Board of Trade and City Treasurer, representing Mayor Connell, who was ill, Mr. John J. Collins, chairman of the price-fixing committee of the retail merchants' association, and Eugene H. Fellows. Mr. McClain, after a thorough discussion of the questions under consideration, upon the unanimous advice of those present, was pleased to officially appoint Mr. Martin Chairman and Mr. Cahoon Secretary of the Fair Price Commission of the County. He advised the re-appointment of all the old members of the Commission and an enlargement of the membership. In the afternoon a fairly well attended meeting of merchants and interested citizens at the Board of Trade Rooms was addressed by Mr. McClain, Mr. Martin, Mr. W. L. Connell, and others. The Fair Price Commission as established continued its work, under the direct orders of Governor McClain, until November 1, 1920, when its activities were officially brought to an end. As a public body, performing a public service, it was most useful to the people of the County.

Department
of Food
Conservation.

One of the departments working under the Food Administrator and under the Committee of Public Safety was the Department

of Food Conservation, the director of which was Mrs. Frank A. Kaiser. The Food Conservation Department of the Women's Division of the Food Administration for Lackawanna County comprised seventy-one chairmen representing the districts into which the County was divided. The development of the local work was left to a great extent to the committee in each district. In practical matters, in no other way did the women of Lackawanna County show their strength so potently as in the work of food conservation. Many of the leaders and members of the committees were chosen from among foreign-speaking women. The development of the conservation of food led to the development of Americanization.

The fifty-fifty ruling in regard to wheat created a situation pregnant with possibilities of reaching these women, for, finding themselves in a difficulty common to all housewives of the United States, in being compelled to buy foods the preparation of which was strange to them, they sought the help of the Women's Council of National Defense; and accepted very gladly instruction on food sanitation, thrift in marketing, the use and value of milk; and gained a sense of food values generally. The feeding of children and the proper food for the dinner pail were given special attention among these women. When the American born woman was glad to learn from the Polish born woman the trick of handling rye dough; when the Irish woman accepted from the Italian woman the receipt for spaghetti, giving in return directions for an Irish stew, a situation was taken advantage of by the people of Lackawanna County which has since developed into a far greater public movement than the immediate problem of saving food as a war-time emergency. The great demand for Americanization, now gaining in rapidity, was given a startling impetus by the women of the County during the war.

In the country districts the necessity of substituting strange foods for familiar ones, drove home to the woman the fact that in providing for her family she had to show as much intelligence as her husband, who insisted on a balanced ration for his poultry and his stock. In teaching the use of substitute foods and the knowledge of food values, the County had the hearty cooperation of the State College Extension Department. Miss Edna B. McNaughton of that department was located here from November, 1917, until after the war. In 1918 she required a permanent assistant, and during June five of her extension workers were in the County teaching canning. An exhibit in March, 1918, brought several thousand visitors, whose great number of questions showed the permanent educational value of this comprehensive work.

The Food Conservation Division also assisted Mr. Belin during the sugar shortages and during the wheat flour shortage, helped locally with the registration of women, and several times placed cards in each house on various phases of the food question.

War
Gardens.

Under the Committee of Public Safety the Department of War Gardens during 1917 and 1918 was under two committees -- a women's committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. C. S. Weston and a men's committee under Mr. Seth W. Shoemaker. It devolved upon Mrs. Weston to see that the interest of women throughout the County was aroused, and upon Mr. Shoemaker to bring the men into action in adding to our total product what could be raised in newly established gardens. Mr. Shoemaker, Chairman of the Lackawanna County War Garden Committee, in 1917 did so much toward preparing for the future that in 1918 a magnificent result was forthcoming.

The reports submitted by Mr. Shoemaker and by Mrs. George Mitchell, who was Chairman of the War Garden Committee for the City of Scranton, are so comprehensive that parts of them should be included in these pages. When it is reported that the value of the War Garden products of Lackawanna County amounted to $767,250, it must be understood that the production within the County as a war emergency was increased by that amount; due to the efforts of Mrs. Weston, Mr. Shoemaker, Mrs. Mitchell, their committees, those who worked the gardens, the public-spirited citizens of the County, and the Committee of Public Safety of the whole County. Just in war gardens alone there was an increase in food production valued at three dollars for every man, woman, and child in the County.

Mr. Eugene H. Fellows, Executive Secretary,
Pennsylvania Council of National Defense,
Scranton, Pennsylvania.

My dear Mr. Fellows:

I submit the following report on War Gardens for the season of 1918.

1. The War Garden work in Scranton this year has been very active, and a large number of organizations have been interested in the work, including the following: The Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense, the Scranton Rotary Club, the Scranton Board of Trade, the International Correspondence School, the Lackawanna County Farm Bureau, the Scranton Boy Scouts, the Johnson Industrial School, the Polish Gardens, the Scranton Department of Public Works, and the Scranton School District. We have, of course, been organized by and worked under the general supervision of the Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety.

2. The persons who have been most active on this Committee during the year have been Mrs. C. S. Weston, Mrs. George Mitchell, Miss Louise Lindsay, Mrs. Fred Lawrason, Mr. Stanley Manness, Mr. I. Frank Hoyt, Mr. Donald Gulick, Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson, and the Reverend Father J. J. Kowaleuski.

3. All the lots distributed by the Committee were given free of charge. A few lots in the city were rented, but these probably represent less than one per cent of the total.

4. About 5500 gardens were registered with the Committee.

It is estimated that there were more than 20,000 gardens in Scranton and Dunmore this year.

5. It is estimated that there were six hundred to eight hundred acres in the registered gardens, and probably about two thousand acres in the total number of gardens.

6. A quantity of fertilizing and plowing for several large tracts of land was performed by the Committee. The Committee also gave out about three thousand packages of seeds which they purchased themselves, some fourteen hundred packages donated by the First National Bank, and fifteen hundred packages of seeds sent by Congressman John R. Farr, making a total of fifty-nine hundred. The Committee also received about one thousand tomato, egg plant, and cabbage plants from The Scranton Flower Market, which were distributed among war gardeners, five thousand cabbage plants from C. E. Slocum, and a large number of onion sets and seed potatoes.

7. Garden supervision was voluntary this year, there being eight volunteers.

8. We had a number of addresses, with and without lantern slides; illustrating war gardening.

9. The registered war gardens produced a large quantity of vegetables, and the value of this produce on the 5,500 registered gardens was about $165,000. The estimated production for the 20,000 gardens was $450,000.

10. The Scranton War Garden and Conservation Exhibition was held in Scranton September 10, 11, 12, 1918; and was the most successful exhibition of this kind ever held in the city. The awards consisted of two distinct kinds: A. The awards for gardens; and B. The awards for fresh vegetables from war gardens, and conservation products, such as canned vegetables, dried vegetables, canned fruits, jams, and jellies. About three hundred and fifty prizes were awarded. There were special prizes for the Boy Scout Gardens. The Boy Scouts rendered valuable assistance during the year in distributing literature and in many other ways.

11. The work in the towns outside of Scranton was energetically pushed, as the detailed report of operations will show you. War Garden Exhibits were held in Moscow and Clark's Summit, and at the Lackawanna County Fair at Ackerly. Meetings were held frequently in all the towns of the County, inspirational and technical addresses and lectures being delivered at them.

12. The large corporations, notably the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Coal Company, the Hudson Coal Company, and the Erie Railroad, donated large areas of land for war garden purposes, and many of them also supplied fertilizer.

13. The following table shows the estimated acreage in gardens, and the value of war garden produce in Lackawanna County for 1918.

	Estimated Acreage in Gardens	Number of Gardens	Estimated Value of Garden Products
Archbald	150	1,000	$20,000
Blakely (Peckville)	100	700	14,000
Clark's Summit	100	400	10,000
Carbondale	200	2,300	46,000
Chinchilla	25	100	2,500
Clark's Green	25	100	2,500
Dalton	30	120	3,000
Dunmore	300	3,000	60,000
Dickson City	100	1,000	20,000
Daleville	5	20	500
Elmhurst	20	60	1,200
Glenburn	15	60	1,500
Jessup	100	1,000	10,000
Jermyn	75	500	12,000
Mayfield	75	600	12,000
Minooka	25	400	6,000
Moosic	60	600	12,000
Moscow	30	120	3,000
Olyphant	150	1,200	24,000
Old Forge	150	1,200	24,000
Scranton	2,000	20,000	450,000
Taylor	90	900	18,000
Throop	60	600	12,000
Waverly	25	100	2,500
	3,910	36,090	767,250

It is to be noticed that the proportion of war gardens was smaller in the rural communities; larger in Lackawanna Valley.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Seth W. Shoemaker.

Mrs. Mitchell's report furnishes information much like that of Mr. Shoemaker, and goes on to say:

"After Scranton produced so much valuable food this year it would seem advisable in view of the present demand for food, to encourage war garden production as much as possible during the coming season.

"A vastly important result of the war garden movement and the conservation of food is that it has enabled the members of the Committee to associate with foreign-speaking people, teaching the latter American customs and persuading them to attend schools of Americanization. These people are being persuaded into cleanliness and American ways of living together with being educated."

The closing of the war brought to an end war garden

activity as a war emergency measure; but the increased acreage inspired by the war, the association of people together which would not have been brought about excepting by such a crisis, and the desire to produce on the part of individuals who never before knew that they had the power to produce, are results that do now, and will in the future, materially affect us in times of peace.

Curb
Markets.

The description of the efforts made by the Committee of Public Safety to increase and conserve food supplies in all possible ways during the war should not be brought to an end without a mention of that which was a new institution in the County -- Curb Markets. There is no public market house or market place in Scranton, as there is in many cities. Housewives must buy their vegetables from the grocer or the huckster. Many farmers have been their own hucksters, at great expense of time. The plan, while it may have been talked of, of having the farmers with produce to sell drive in to certain central locations in the city, where customers would come to them, look over their wares, at a fixed time on certain days of the week, thus so economizing the farmers' time that the customer could buy more cheaply, was never tried until it was put into effect as a war measure. No market houses were built or established; but after a great deal of publicity emanating from Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson, acting for the Committee of Public Safety, and a great deal of persuasion to convince farmer and customer that the experiment was worth trying, in the fall of 1917 Curb Markets were established in Scranton, Olyphant, and Carbondale.

Scranton is a large mining and industrial center that is not surrounded by an agricultural community sufficiently productive to supply it with food. In fact, in 1917, it was estimated that more than ninety-two per cent of the produce consumed in Scranton had been brought in by rail.

As compared with the season of 1917 the Curb Markets of 1918 brought in more than three times as much produce. Up to October 1st a total of 5, 492 loads of produce had been brought in from the surrounding country, making a total of more than 8,000 tons, which, at a conservative estimate, was worth about $400,000. The problem of distributing this large increase in the quantity of produce without occasioning prices that would discourage the farmer was considerable; as the number of consumers in Scranton was not larger than the year before.

Upon investigation it was found that people did not as a rule go very far to attend Curb Markets. A common radius in which the market can draw is usually not more than six or seven blocks. Hence, to handle the large increase in produce, the only possible solution was to open up more markets and distribute wagon-loads of produce where customers could easily reach them. With most consumers the problem of transportation was a serious one, finding it almost impossible to carry heavy loads more than a few blocks.

A further development of this idea of taking the produce as close as possible to the consumer was brought about in October. The plan of having the consumers get in their orders for winter -- potatoes, cabbage, turnips, carrots, beets, onions, for delivery at their homes, proved to be the means of distributing much more produce from the Curb Markets than would have been actually carried away.

Beginning on August 3rd, the Mifflin Avenue Market was

the first to open, and the South Side, Hyde Park, Providence, Dunmore, Nay Aug, and Green Ridge Markets were opened in turn. After a few days' trial the Dunmore Market was shifted several blocks in order to put it in a more central location.

In 1918 the development in Curb Markets was so great that in 1919, after the war, the Curb Markets were considered an institution that had come to stay on a much larger scale. The installation of Curb Markets was of mutual benefit to producer and consumer. The consumer was able to reduce the cost of living materially, and the producer was able to get a better price at less trouble and expense than he could obtain in the wholesale market. The double advantage was obtained by eliminating the service of the middle-man, which was made possible by bringing the producer and consumer together where they could transact their business conveniently -- where the customer, too, could move from one producer to the next, taking her choice of wares.

Although the impetus to the Curb Market movement in Scranton was a war impetus, the advantages to consumer and producer have continued, and will continue, just as much in time of peace. This, of course, is born out by the experience of curb markets in other towns of the State.

When one thinks of the many difficulties that Mr. Shoemaker encountered in 1917 and 1918 in trying to get the Curb Markets started on a successful basis, the people of Scranton should always commend him for the great advantages he has brought to them. The Curb Market came to stay; and it was one of the lasting benefits that came to us from the great efforts put forth to make the most of our food supply during the war times.

Mr. Shoemaker's statistical report shows that on August 3, 1918, one market was open, 63 loads were in market, and [illegible],500

people were in attendance. September 3rd, seven markets were open, 191 loads were in market, and 9,800 people were in attendance at the markets. October 5th, seven markets were open, there were 165 loads delivered, and 10,100 were present. The big day was September 24th. 227 loads were brought to market, and 13,200 people assembled to look and to buy.

Chapter IV.

Industry and Labor.

In the great war the Government needed the enthusiastic support of every one of its hundred million citizens. It was the war of the citizens, not the war of the Government; and it was for this very fact that the war was fought with such stupendous success both in the field and at home. We built ships, raised wheat, made munitions, on a scale one hundred times greater, or faster, than ever before. And here in Lackawanna County we mined anthracite coal faster and consumed it more slowly than we ever had in the past. The task of war needed the whole energy of every man, woman, and child. Ignorance, carelessness, and indifference would have caused huge losses and delays. Because public opinion was so aroused that patriotism drove the Nation at full speed the message of the war reached the people.

A Domestic Problem.

At the very beginning of the war it was known to the people of Lackawanna County that war in these ultra-modern times meant not the blare of the trumpet -- but work. It was well known that a very small proportion of the men, and an infinitesimal number of the women of Northeastern Pennsylvania would be so fortunate as to hear the roar of cannon, the rattle of musketry, or smell the smoke of powder. The eleven thousand who first and last entered the service of the United States was a much greater number than was anticipated in the spring of 1917. The Executive Committee of the Council of National Defense and the whole Commit-

tee of Public Safety were well aware that their problems would not arise from the fighting part of the war; and they were equally well aware that their duties and responsibilities were to support the fighting forces in all the ways that industry could support them, and at the same time to take the best of care of the people who remained at home; so that nothing might sap the energy or destroy the enthusiasm of the people of the community. The elements that go to make up the machinery of civic and social and industrial organization must be better oiled than they ever had been before; and greatly in addition to that, an ever increasing surplus of utilities, based on labor, must be exported from this County.

Civilian
Service.

The whole question of industry and labor was a vital problem to the Committee of Public Safety from the beginning of the war, and it was a problem that continually became more complicated. Mr. Paul B. Belin was made chairman of the Committee on Civilian Service. Under his administration, which lasted through to the end of the war, a great many different arrangements were made as to the management of the infinite number of details connected with employment of labor, filling positions, the guidance of industry, and the supplying of all sorts of demands. It was under his direction that the different managers of the Farm Labor Bureau, already referred to in the preceding chapter, conducted their operations. It may be said that the questions relating to industrial and mining labor came to be important and complicated problems a little later in the war than did farm labor questions. At any rate it was taken up as a great big question later. And this is true, that until a certain point was reached in the

shortage of labor for the industries and the mines, the industries and mines were able to handle their own labor problems without the assistance of governmental or quasi-governmental agencies or supervision.

War
Industries.

The correspondence of Colonel Watres and the files in the war offices are full of letters and their replies offering the services of individuals in certain types of industrial work; and of industries themselves in regard to turning from their regular operations to the manufacture of war munitions. Many individuals did engage in special work because of their special training; but in almost every case it was necessary for them to leave Lackawanna County in order to do so. There was no large war industry, with two exceptions, located within the County. True, some plants engaged in the manufacture of munitions, notably industries engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel products; on what must be considered in comparison with the great industrial plants throughout the country, a very small scale. The two exceptions were the silk mills and the coal mines. In regard to the labor problem it was never necessary for the officials of the Committee of Public Safety to pay any attention to the silk mills. The operators, supplying the ordnance department and at the same time the domestic markets throughout the country with silk products, worked twenty-four hours a day most of the time, and were able to supply themselves with labor This was not remarkable, for most of the hands in the silk mills are women, who were naturally unprepared to engage in other industries, were not called into the army, could not go into the mines, and were not tempted away into the ship yards and big munition plants.

Labor for the mines, however, was at all times, but principally during the two winters of the war, a very vital and a very serious problem. To repeat, then, during the first months of the war, industrial labor practically took care of itself; and the Committee of Public Safety watched it.

The members of Mr. Bolin's Committee on Civilian Service were Mr. H. F. Hartman, Mr. Boyd A. Musser, Mr. James Gaylord, Mr. Herman F. Stender, Mr. E. S. Williams, Mr. B. E. Watson, and Mr. E. H. Davis.

Information.

Various registrations during the war placed in the hands of the Committee of Public Safety valuable information concerning labor conditions. The Scranton Board of Trade, through years of effort on the part of Mr. C. S. Seamans and Mr. Mark K. Edgar, was in a position to supply much information in regard to industries and mines at any moment.

Employment
Bureau.

There was a registration of women in June, 1917. In July, the members of the Committee of Public Safety under direction of the Executive Committee, conducted a thorough registration of persons, occupations, and an inventory of personal property. On August 3rd, Mr. E. C. Felton, Director of the Department of Civilian Service and Labor for Pennsylvania, made known to Colonel Patres his plan for the establishment of zones in which administrators would cope with the employment problem. Scranton was to be the central office for the counties of Lackawanna, Montour, Columbia, Wayne, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Luzerne, Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe,

and Pike; and he sent Mr. Jacob Lightner, State Director of the Employment Bureau, to Colonel Watres to make arrangements for the organization of the central office of the zone. On August 17, 1917, Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson was appointed Examiner-in-Charge by the Executive Committee, and later saw his appointment approved by Mr. Felton.

For about a year Mr. Stevenson occupied the two positions of Executive Secretary of the Committee of Publin Safety and Examiner-in-Charge of the Employment Bureau; and during his encumbency most of his interest was in the Employment Bureau. It seemed that just enough of his interest was given to the affairs of the Committee of Public Safety proper, to destroy his one-hundred-per-cent effectiveness in the Employment Bureau. It must be said that the management of the Labor Bureau by Mr. Felton and Dr. Frazee did not make it possible for the combined offices of the two departments with one executive satisfactory to any one concerned, and probably least satisfactory to Mr. Stevenson himself. The importance of the work in Lackawanna County of either the Executive Secretary or the Examiner-in-Charge was proved later to be equal in point of service required and rendered, to that of a fairly high officer in the army; but Mr. Stevenson accepted a commission as first lieutenant in August, 1918. What he did in trying with limited means and under adverse circumstances to cope with the labor problem that was daily becoming more and more difficult must not be lost sight of or minimized. He received requisitions from the mines for labor; he received requisitions from local industries for labor; and he and his successor received the most ridiculously exaggerated requisitions for labor almost every day for weeks from Mr. Felton's office in Philadelphia, to go to the ship yards and big munition plants. He did what he could to

fill these requisitions. Unable to follow all the changing requests of Dr. Frazee, Mr. Stevenson resigned from another position he held, even before he went into the army, that of Director of the United States Public Service Reserve -- a title that turned out later to have meant nothing.

Executive
Secretary.

The management of the several branches of war work under the direction of the Committee of Public Safety was never on a workable basis until the writer became Executive Secretary of the Lackawanna County Committee, August 5, 1918. This statement can be made with sincerity and frankness because the credit of putting all the affairs connected with conducting the war at home on a business-like foundation is not to be given to the writer. In a very short time after he came into the war office, the whole department dealing with the employment of labor was taken into another office, under so able and experienced an executive that the Executive Secretary had nothing to do with the Employment Bureau except to supervise its co-ordination with the Committee of Public Safety, just as it was his duty to supervise the co-ordination of all other departments.

Labor
Scouts.

In the brief time that the writer occupied both positions he performed one act of some importance to the cause of industry and mining in the County. At this time the mine operators could have utilized, at a conservative estimate three thousand, at an exaggerated estimate five thousand, more men in the mines. There were all the time and there had been for months labor scouts in Scranton representing industries in other localities, whose very successful

operations consisted in enticing workingmen away from Scranton, and whose compensation was at so much "a head". Every time they got a man the mines of the farms suffered, directly or indirectly. Most, perhaps not all, of these scouts were unscrupulous and insignificant, personally. Very inconsistently with the cause that all were trying to serve, they carried cards purporting to permit their activities, signed by E. C. Felton. The writer assumed an authority he had not, forbade their operations, invoked the aid of the strong-armed Mayor, Alexander T. Connell, and of the loyal and able publisher of the Times, Mr. Edward J. Lynett; and ran all such labor scouts out of town. It was just as necessary to protect our mines as it was to protect our food supply. Also, the writer advised, which advice was followed by Mr. Stevenson's successor as Employment examiner, Mr. Seamans, to disregard requisitions from Philadelphia for labor for the time. It is impossible to say what the result would have been had the war lasted for a long time; but this policy of holding our own labor noticeably relieved the situation between August and December.

Superintendent
of Employment.

One of the most noteworthy acts of the Executive Committee was the appointment of Mr. Charles S. Seamans Superintendent of the Employment Bureau. Mr. Seamans was a man of mature years, of the widest business experience, and of a complete understanding of the nature of the work expected of his office and of the difficulties which it mus t overcome. It was to be no side issue and no adjunct of other administrative duties. Mr. Seamans had been acting president of the Scranton Board of Trade, had served as managing secretary of the Board of Trade, and was at the time a director of that organization. He knew practically every manufacturer in Scranton

and most of those outside the City. By training, experience, and knowledge, he had every qualification for the position; and he had all the information necessary from the point of view of the employer and from the point of view of the employee. His only desire was that he might take some part in the war against Germany; and when, on account of his past experience and known aptitude the Executive Committee asked him to assume the duties of Superintendent of the Employment Bureau, he just dropped every other interest where it stood. Moreover, because of his maturity and influence, he was able to have the Employment Bureau established on so large a scale, with plenty of assistants, that it could handle the work of several counties thoroughly, systematically, and promptly. The satisfaction to those seeking labor and those seeking work can hardly be overestimated.

Mr. Seamans, his first assistant, Mr. John P. Gownley, and four others, put their whole time from September 3rd until the following summer upon the labor problems presenting themselves. Up to the spring or summer of 1919 the problem was to find men to do the work. Thereafter, as the pendulum began to swing in the other direction, and the boys were mustered out in increasing numbers and the men came drifting back from their highly paid positions in the ship yards and munition plants, the work of Mr. Seamans' department consisted of finding jobs rather than in finding men. He did it. Mr. Seamans continued in charge of the Department and he is still Superintendent without salary of the institution he founded. Under the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Welfare the Employment Bureau is still finding positions for those who apply, free; but, of course, with a very much smaller force.

Labor
Questions.

Mr. Seamans' broad views on public matters gave him the opportunity, with the co-ordination of the Executive Committee and the Executive Secretary, to go much farther in his operations than to find men and women to fill positions and to find positions for men and women. For instance, he was called upon on several occasions to adjust labor disputes; and the writer knows, for he was called into consultation, that at least one difficulty that might have resulted in a most uncomfortable strike, was quietly settled by the wisdom and patience of Mr. Seamans.

Community
Labor
Board.

At about the same time that Mr. Seamans took office there came directions to Colonel Watres to have organized a Community Labor Board. In October, 1918, the Honorable M. F. Sando, Judge of the Orphans' Court of Lackawanna County, was appointed Chairman, and Mr. W. H. Hughes, representing labor, and Mr. George G. Brooks, representing the employers, were appointed members of the Community Labor Board. On October 23, 1918, Dr. John C. Frazee approved these appointments. The Board met two or three times, always with Mr. Seamans, and twice with the Executive Secretary present. This Board was organized a very short time before the war came to an end. If the war had lasted a long time the Board might well have had important duties to perform; as it was, its members found that Mr. Seamans was in such close touch with the whole situation, that about all they could do was to stand ready to advise and assist Mr. Seamans in every possible way. The personnel of this Board was excellent;

but it can not be said that it was ever really called into action.

Vocational
Education.

Another matter in which Mr. Seamans and the Executive Secretary were deeply interested was Vocational Education. Soon after the Armistice was signed the offices of both were flooded with literature on the questions of moment concerning the education and manual training of the soldiers that were being mustered out; particularly those who had been maimed or had contracted chronic diseases. Officials connected with the department of Vocational Education, particularly Mr. Jerome E. Scott, called on Mr. Seamans and the Executive Secretary, and many employers of labor were visited by them. The following bulletin was issued, it was repsonded to generally, and important results were expected from it. Unfortunately, the policy of the Government in regard to Vocational Education changed so frequently or seemed to be so without definiteness of purpose, that the local Committee of Public Safety was eventually unable to render any important assistance in this direction. The office of the Executive Secretary, however, sent several young men to Vocational Schools.

Executive Office, Pennsylvania
Council of National Defense and
Committee of Public Safety,
Scranton, Pa., November 12, 1918.

Reconstruction Bulletin Number One.

Employers of all kinds of labor are earnestly and urgently requested to read this statement.

Mr. C. S. Seamans, Superintendent of the State and of the United States Employment Bureau, Mr. Jerome E. Scott, Field Officer for the Federal Board for Vocational Education, and the Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety of Lackawanna County, have in conference agreed that the following statement of plans for the more immediate replacing of men disabled in the service of the United States back into civil employment be made known

to the employers of labor in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Much of the detail work will devolve upon Mr. Seamans, who, with the advice and assistance of the Committee of Public Safety and its executive offices, will have charge of the movement to place those who have been soldiers and sailors back into civil employment.

The question under discussion at present is only the forerunner of the very large question of labor readjustment. It is the finding of employment for those soldiers and sailors who have suffered disability from wounds or disease.

It is the purpose of the Government to ascertain in regard to every man in the hospitals at present or in the future every item of information concerning his former employment and his future intentions and probable aptitude for professional or vocational service. Since we have no institutions here at which men are trained for the professions it is within our spheres to treat of the vocations alone.

If the disability of one of our boys in the service is of such a nature that he can return to his former trade or work without a loss of efficiency it is desired that he be allowed to do so, unless he desires to take advantage of the Government's offer to fit him for a higher type of work.

If his disability is of such a nature that he can return to the same industrial plant at which he worked before he went to war, but is disabled in such a way that he is not as efficient and can not become as efficient as he was before the war, employers of labor, if they can possibly do so, are requested to give him work at which a partly crippled man can earn some money and be of some use to his employer. In such a case the Government stands ready to give him financial aid.

If his disability is of such a nature that he must seek absolutely new employment the intention is to give him anopportunity to learn a new trade. He may be sent to a vocational school. Perhaps the employers of labor may agree with me that the best vocational schools are the departments for apprentices in their own shops. It so happens that with the exception of the new Johnson School they are the only ones in Lackawanna County, and the only ones we are called upon at the present time to take under consideration.

After the information has been gained from the soldier or sailor in the hospital, if he was inducted into the service from Lackawanna County and it seems proper to send him back to Northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Seamans will be informed fully in regard to the individual and what his capacity for labor is; and Mr. Seamans will also be informed exactly when the man will return home.

The employers of labor have been consistently and intensely patriotic during the war. Considering, as they are, what honor and benefit is to be conferred on those who have been in the active service of the Nation, they know that the duties of patriotism are to be as insistent and difficult during the

coming period of reconstruction as they have been during the war. The Committee of Public Safety believes that probably the greatest benefit that can be conferred upon a soldier or sailor -- very particularly a disabled soldier or sailor -- is to have a job waiting for him when he steps off the railroad on his return.

You are asked, therefore, to consider whether or not you can find room amongst your apprentices, and in other places in your industrial plant, for a few men who are not one-hundred-per-cent effective. You are asked to pay these men only what they are worth, in proportion to what you are paying other men. The Government proposes to pay men who because of their disability are obliged to begin life over again, a sufficient wage to enable them to live comfortably until they can command journeyman's wages.

The details in connection with seeking employment for these men will in each individual case rest with us. I am at the present time simply placing before you a brief outline of this first question concerning reconstruction. I respectfully suggest that you give the matter your deepest consideration, and be ready to discuss the matter with Mr. Seamans when he desires to consult with you.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Eugene H. Fellows.

Public
Service
Reserve.

The national and state organization known as the Public Service Reserve had a very unimportant place in the affairs of Lackawanna County. The first Director was Mr. Joseph M. Stevenson. After his resignation, Mr. Paul B. Belin informed the Executive Committee that Dr. Frazee intended to reorganize the Public Service Reserve; and on August 5, 1918, Colonel Frank M. Vandling was appointed Superintendent for the County. Conferring with the Executive Secretary, under orders issued by Dr. John C. Frazee, Colonel Vandling nominated the following enrollment agents of the Public Service Reserve. They were commissioned by Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson under date of November 30, 1918. They were at all times ready to perform the duties of their positions, and would have been of great help in the work of reconstruction

and readjustment had the Public Service Reserve taken upon itself such duties. For Lackawanna County, this organization was complete, covering every community. These very individuals did engage in other capacities in all sorts of war affairs; but not as enrollment agenst of the Public Service Reserve.

At Large -- Colonel Frank M. Vandling, Superintendent; Eugene H. Fellows.

Scranton, at Large -- Mayor Alexander T. Connell, Thomas F. Quinn, Charles F. Hartman. First Ward -- Evan J. Lewis; Second Ward -- Carl W. Ziegler; Third Ward -- John T. Culkin; Fourth Ward -- W. C. Bruning; Fifth Ward -- John T. Howell; Sixth Ward -- Congressman Patrick McLane; Seventh Ward -- Kenneth Burnett; Eighth Ward -- Major W. S. Millar; Ninth Ward -- George E. Haak; Tenth Ward -- George S. Jones; Eleventh Ward -- Peter J. Noll; Twelfth Ward -- Anthony A. Walsh; Thirteenth Ward -- Andrew S. Muir; Fourteenth Ward -- Francis E. Gurrell; Fifteenth Ward -- David W. Phillips; Sixteenth Ward -- Jacob Smith; Seventeenth Ward -- Joseph E. Allen; Eighteenth Ward -- John M.Beaumont; Nineteenth Ward -- Selden J. Notz; Twentieth Ward -- Andrew Brown; Twenty-first Ward -- Rhys Powell; Twenty-second Ward -- Luther Price.

Archbald -- P. A. Philbin; Benton Township -- G. A. Post; Carbondale -- William H. Masters, H. G. Likely; Clark's Green -- Albert J. Breig; Clark's Summit -- Frank J. Stanton; Clifton Township -- Milton Heller; Covington Township -- W. W. Jones; Dalton -- Dr. E. A. Fuller; Dunmore -- E. E. Ferris; Elmhurst -- George A. Emery; Fell Township -- Isaac Baldwin; Glenburn -- Joseph S. Waite; Greenfield Township -- Sanford Wedeman; Jefferson Township -- Henry Hoffman; Jessup -- Joseph M. McAndrew; Jermyn -- Robert Hall; Lackawanna Township -- James Mangan; La Plume -- William Thomas; Lehigh Township -- A. A. Chamberlain; Madison Township -- Charles Noack; Mayfield -- J. M. Kennedy; Moosic -- Joseph J. Jennings; Moscow -- Joseph E. Loveland; Newton Township -- Oscar Coon; North Abington Township -- Charles Pick; Old Forge -- Frank R. Coyne; Ransom Township -- Frank Coon; Roaring Brook Township -- James McDade; Scott Township -- Bert Ball; South Abington Township -- George Ash; Spring Brook Township -- A. B. Kilmer; Taylor -- James Powell; Throop -- Joseph Birtley; Vandling -- Richard Llewellyn; Waverly -- John G. Hill; West Abington Township -- Alvah Ross.

Man
Power.

In connection partly with the Public Service Reserve, partly to rectify the lack of knowledge in the man power of the County that had been displayed on Mr. Felton's request for it early

in the summer, partly to lend assistance to the Liberty Loan Committee, and partly to help the Employment Bureau, a registration of women and a complete census of Scranton and Dunmore should be mentioned here.

Registration.

Under the direction of Mrs. Maxwell Chapman the Registration Department of the Women's Committee made an industrial census of the women of the County. Through co-operation with the Department of Women in Industry and the Employment Bureau it was planned to place available women, both paid and volunteer workers, in employment; so that men might be released for national and industrial service. It was a fine idea of Mrs. Dimmick, Mrs. Weston, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Chapman, and others; and to Mrs. Chapman was given the toil and honor of preparing for and superintending this registration. It would have been invaluable during an additional year of war; for the war fortunately came to an end just as the labor problems were becoming critical. This Lackawanna County index of women, prepared during months of hard work by Mrs. Chapman and her assistants, was placed in the office of the Employment Bureau, where it is now.

War
Census.

As has been said, the Executive Secretary, with a number of different objects in view, but acting here rather for the Public Service Reserve, superintended the taking of a war-time census of Scranton and Dunmore -- Dunmore being contiguous to and a part of the City in all respects except political organization. The estimated population of these municipalities combined was 155,000.

The census, conducted by the Executive Secretary and his office force, with the outside help of over one thousand volunteer census takers, missed few people. The census takers also acquired information for the war office about all men in active service, laying the basis for the work of the War History Commission. Half the census of Scranton was taken by the teachers and pupils of the Technical High School, under the direction of Principal Ronald P. Gleason. In every movement connected with war activities, this magnificent school was ready, willing, and competent to do far more than its share. The census of Dunmore was taken by the school system of Dunmore under Superintendent Charles F. Hoban and Principal Dayton Ellis. In Dunmore, too, the whole school system was constantly on the alert in the Country's service.

Coal.

The all-important product of Lackawanna County in time of war, as in time of peace, was anthracite coal. While coal mining was by no means the only industry of the County, almost every thing else, or really every thing else, that can be raised or manufactured in Lackawanna County can be raised or manufactured in any one of a thousand other localities of the United States. But all the anthracite coal mined in the United States comes from a territory, including Lackawanna County, not ten times its area.

It has been said in these pages that the mines of this County supplied the local and industrial domestic markets, and besides shipped eight times as much coal away as was used for all local purposes. It was necessary as a war emergency effort, to mine more coal than had ever been mined before. More coal than ever before must be used in the industries throughout the United States; and more coal than ever before must be shipped to foreign ports.

Of the increased supply of coal to be mined during the war, not only a larger amount but a larger proportion must be shipped outside the County. There were single industries elsewhere in the country possibly as big as all the industries of Lackawanna County put together; and they must have every ounce of coal that it was possible to get for them. It was the paramount duty of all the war forces of Lackawanna County to see to it that as much coal was mined as could be mined, and as little coal was used locally as the County could get along with.

Mine
Labor.

The first of these duties, that of mining with the highest degree of efficiency and with the greatest speed, was purely a question of labor, and belonged almost exclusively to that part of the Committee of Public Safety under the supervision of the Employment Bureau. Up to the middle of 1918 the mine operators got along fairly well with their own labor problems. It was not a question of wages so much as it was a question of keeping their men. It has been repeated in this narration of the circumstances connected with the war, that every time a man left the County to enter the army or seek employment at high wages elsewhere, the ultimate injury was to the mines and the farm. Efforts were made during all the months of the war to prevent those in the mines from coming up out of them to engage in other vocations. Colonel Watres, as early as January 22, 1918, writes as follows:

> "It has been brought to my attention that an effort is being made and propaganda put forth to take men away from the Anthracite Field into other spheres of activity. Especially is this said to be true as regards the United States Shipping Board. Everybody wants the United States Shipping Board and every other government board to get all the men they can, but I am sure you will agree with me that there should be no propaganda permitted which will divert men now engaged in mining

coal into other fields. They can not get into any more important business just now than the mining of coal. Let me assure you that this movement I speak of is more serious than you might think from a mere statement of the case. It is in danger of materially affecting the production of coal."

Major T. Frank Penman, Chairman of the Speakers' Bureau of Lackawanna County, wrote as follows to Colonel Watres:

"Men engaged in mining coal should not be diverted from this important industry. But as I understand it i t is government agencies that are trying to get them away. We know that the government is outbidding all other employers in wages for labor; therefore, it does not seem to me to be wise to give publicity to the fact that such employment is available, for men are likely to look for it of their own accord."

In fact, the Government constantly sought means to inspire the people of the coal fields to mine every pound of coal that was within their power to mine; and at the same time advertised extensively for men to leave other employments -- which appealed especially to miners -- to enter government employ, at wages that tempted them away and would and did spoil them for future employment on a pre-war basis. At that time the Executive Committee considered that the situation was becoming acute; and the matter was taken up directly with Washington, with a strong request that our miners be let alone. As a result, on January 25, 1918, the following telgram was received from William McCormick Blair:

"Account of critical coal situation it is most important that men in anthracite coal fields be not disturbed or unsettled but on the contrary in connection with our ship-building bulletin they be shown that their work is actually a very important part of shipping programme. ithout coal all the ships in the world would be of little use unless built for other fuel; therefore try to bring out and emphasize in all talks the important position coal miner holds in war programme, and opportunity for service unequalled by almost any other civilian work in country. Please instruct all chairmen and speakers in your county to bring out above points and not to ask for any enrollments of men for ship-building work in your county."

An improvement in the situation seemed to come about in the spring and summer of 1918, due partly to an united effort to prevent miners from being drawn from their labor in large numbers; and due

to the fact, of course, that during the warm weather the demand for anthracite coal is no where nearly as great as in the winter -- particularly a winter as rigorous as that of 1917-18. While industries and railroads and steamships use by far the greatest proportion of all the kinds of coal that are mined, the heating of homes in which one hundred million people live has a very marked effect at all times on the fuel situation.

Miners' Exemptions.

Another matter that was uppermost in the minds of the people of Lackawanna County as the war progressed was the possibility of exempting miners from the draft. August 30, 1917, the District Exemption Board gave an audience to representatives of the anthracite operators at Scranton in reference to exemptions. Mr. F. M. Chase, Mr. Frank H. Hemelright, and Mr. A. P. Jessup, and a number of managers of companies located near Scranton were present. After a general discussion between the members of the Board and the operators, the chairman of the Board announced that there would be no wholesale exemptions on account of mining; but that if the several operators would present to the Board a list representing ten per cent of their employees, certified by the local exemption boards as physically and otherwise subject to service, they would consider the exemption of that number.

On June 29, 1918, Colonel Watres stated on absolutely accurate information that of the 2,594 men who were called into the draft for June 24th from the anthracite counties, at least one half of them were mine workers.

> "I urged that General Crowder should so define the Act that all draft boards would clearly understand that the mine worker was not to be put into the class of the common laborer. I believe that the result of my letter to Chairman Pepper unquestionably is that in the future draft boards will have a proper view of this question."

No definite arrangement was made before the end of the war in regard to the attitude of the draft toward men working in the mines. There were always conflicting opinions on the question, and the question itself was a much complicated one. One opinion was that no distinction would permanently relieve the situation, because no matter what position a man was drafted from, the tendency was for miners to quit their work in many cases to take the place of men who had been drafted from the industries. The directly opposite view was that no men at all should be drafted from the mines; and that as soon as a man otherwise subject to service left the mines, he should not be allowed to enter the industries, but should immediately be drafted into the army. Perhaps the latter view would have been adopted from necessity had the war lasted longer. It is not certain, but the opinion has been advanced that the draft boards did stretch their authority in exempting miners from military service.

Exclusion
of Labor
Scouts.

Foreseeing grave difficulties ahead in the winter of 1918-19 in regard to the whole situation, the writer, in August, 1918, immediately after he became Executive Secretary, excluded as an emergency act and without authority, excepting that of the justice and necessity of protecting Lackawanna County's most important contribution to the war, all labor scouts from operating in the County. This order, backed by police authority, undoubtedly held a very large number of working men within the County.

Exemption
Order.

In October, 1918, Mr. George E. Stevenson was peremptorily

removed from his position as chairman of the District Exemption Board, a position he had occupied for more than a year. In close touch with public affairs and keenly alive to the coal situation, he had constantly fought for the protection of mining at full capacity. In October he issued an order to the local draft boards to exempt mine workers. He was removed by his superior for the reason that he had no authority to issue such an order or any order at all. It was again a conflict between the protection of our great war industry and the inconsistent demands of the Government. We must mine all the coal that was needed, and at the same time we must give up many of the men who would mine the coal. Mr. Stevenson retired from his position in silence, and probably with the feeling that he had sacrificed himself to principle.

Return of
Labor.

The end of the war relieved the coal situation as it relieved the situation in so many other matters. No more men were called away; and first scores, then hundreds, and finally some thousands came back to our County. Some of them, though not a large proportion, who had been in the mines returned there. As a subject of war history, coal mining and questions pertaining to it ceased to be a matter of importance soon after the end of the war. The labor difficulties in the mines, since the war, are not any more a part of war history than are the changed conditions in all other labor, industrial, commercial, and social interests. But the war had an effect on coal mining that is still felt and ill be felt in the future. In the last two years there have been fewer men engaged in mining than before the war, their wages have been much higher, and their total earnings have increased immensely.

The miner himself is more independent and his family is much better cared for.

Americanization.

Of all our inhabitants, the miner, because of his recent arrival in this country, needs both scholastic and social education. And he has become ripe for it.

Demand
for Coal.

Another effect of the war has been to make it necessary for the mines to work "full time". The industries of the United States, transportation in the United States and transportation at sea, never drew on the American coal supply in times of peace so heavily as during the last two years. In addition to the American demand, Europe, many of her mines disabled, has added an enormous demand for our supply of coal. At this time of writing, December, 1920, there is a very severe shortage of anthracite coal in Lackawanna County, right where it is mined, where the mines are working full time, and where there is not a single strike among the miners. It all means that the war has given a great impetus to mining.

Fuel
Administrator.

The coal operators, the miners, the Committee of Public Safety, and all citizens with influence greater or less, were deeply interested in seeing that the maximum supply of coal was mined during the war. That was one side of the problem. The other was in the management of the distribution of coal. It was the duty of the Fuel Administration, in co-operation with all agencies, governmental, partly governmental, and with the coal operators,

industrial operators, consumers of coal, and the transportation companies, to see that the local market was neither over-supplied nor under-supplied; and more particularly, to see that no part of the local market received more or less than it was entitled to. Hoarding of coal for domestic uses or buying large amounts for a long period could not be permitted; nor could any family, for reasons commonly humanitarian and because the vigor of every family was needed to play its part in the war, be denied fuel for ordinary purposes. Of course, the main purpose of the Fuel Administration was to control the use of coal at home that the maximum amount possible could be shipped to other parts of the country.

On November 20, 1917, Colonel Watres was notified that Mr. Tudor R. Williams had been appointed Fuel Administrator for Lackawanna County, the appointment having been made by Federal Fuel Administrator William Potter. In the course of a few weeks Mr. Williams had appointed local administrators throughout the County, as follows:

Assistant -- W. F. Forster.

Distribution -- A. W. Close, Dunmore; D. L. Crane, Carbondale; Professor M. W. Cummings, Olyphant; E. D. Morse, Clark's Summit; W. C. Nicholson, Jermyn; J. F. Tubbs, Taylor.

Inspection -- W. B. Price, F. B. Jones, John G. Hayes.

Equipment -- W. F. Shean.

Legal -- George L. Peck.

The local fuel administrators, surrounded by sub-committees, worked under a general committee that advised and assisted Mr. Williams. The subjects which the Fuel Administration took under advisement with authority to act, were:

1. Elimination of un-economical isolated plants.

2. The application of the skipstop to railways, and the regulation of coal heating and lighting;

3. Economy in utilization of power and light in factories;

4. Utilization of water power and interconnection of power systems;

5. Limiting the production of power to the most efficient plants available;

6. Economy in the refrigerating and ice-manufacturing industries.

Fuel Administrator Williams acted in close harmony with the Committee of Public Safety, kept them informed of his operations, and of the operations of his subordinates, and asked for and accepted the services of the committees of public safety throughout the County. He laid aside almost all his own business and conscientiously performed the duties of Fuel Administrator far beyond the limits prescribed for him. It may be added that the position was not one that would render any man more popular; and he was constantly besieged by individuals and industrial managers on account of rulings he made in granting or denying supplies of coal.

Economy
in Fuel.

His organization used persuasion and propaganda more frequently than it exercised prerogative. They taught lessons of the most rigid thrift in the use of coal, light, oil, and gasoline. People without children were asked to live with as little heat in their homes as possible. Only the most necessary lighting by gas, electricity, and kerosene came to be the rule. Fewer street lights were used and for shorter periods during the night. Display signs using electricity were at first limited, and later laid aside. Before the end of the war certain stores were closed on certain days, and automoblies were not allowed to be used on Sundays for any but the most necessary purposes. All these things and many more for the saving of fuel were institutions all over the United States, of course; but in Lackawanna County, both because of the conscientious

patriotism of the people and because of the excellence of the organization of the Fuel Administration and of the Committee of Public Safety supporting it, they were actually and literally in force.

The work of the Fuel Administration was really personal work -- that is, it was personal between an agent of the Fuel Administration and every single individual that made every single purchase of coal from November, 1917, to November, 1918. It was detail work. In each case the individual must show why he had to have coal and for what purpose he was going to use it, and how economical he was in the use of the last coal he had. It is probable that very little coal was wasted on the one hand and that very little if any suffering or industrial loss arose from the lack of coal.

About two months beforethe close of the war, Mr. Williams made the following official statement in regard to the Fuel Administration. It is valuable now as a specimen of an able administrator's view of the situation during the critical periods of the war.

> "To say that fuel is the most essential thing during the war is no exaggeration, for of all things needed, results can be obtained by ommission or substitution except when fuel is needed. The Fuel Administration has recognized this and through a volunteer organization hopes to get through the coming winter by a systematic stimulating of production, curtailment of unnecessary use or waste, and equal distribution of the available supplies of coal.
>
> "In comparing production last year with the amount produced this year, ton for ton, we are ahead now, and by the wonderful desire of the operators and mine workers to win the war, we are expecting even better results. It is also expected that each ton will go farther this year on account of the inspection on the part of the Fuel Administrator, assuring abetter grade of coal. The new plan of allotting the miner a certain amount of coal to mine will give him some thing new to work for, and we are sure our mining will not fall behind.
>
> "Some restrictions have been made as to the use of coal only because those industries most essential to winning the war must be taken care of. Very few classes of industries have been denied fuel, an arrangement having been made whereby those industries found not to be most essential have been permitted to use the larger sizes of steam coal. Economics

such as the skip-stop and the lighting orders as well as the elimination of many isolated power plants have not only saved coal but money.

"Better co-operation between the Fuel and Railroad Administrations assured better distribution. When the Fuel Administration, last spring, asked the people to 'place your order now' it by no means meant that we would get our orders delivered then, although many took that interpretation -- a thing that would have been impossible. The idea was, however, on account of war work, people were moving from place to place by thousands; and the only way to find out how much coal each community needed was to compile the many individual requirements in order to make up the country's coal budget, and plan to send fuel only when and where it was needed. The Fuel Administration, in its planning, however, depends upon the patriotism of the miners to produce the coal and the patriotism of the people to obtain only the amount they absolutely must have."

Construction
and Materials.

All during 1918 the question of non-essential construction with the use of essential material for this construction, was looming up as a problem of increasing importance. Before definite steps were taken to check non-essential construction by the authority of the Government, that is, as early as May, 1918, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Colonel Watres, conferred through officials of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense with the Priorities Division of the War Industries Board, on the specific cases of a $200,000 school house in the Borough of Throop, and of a sewer contracted for at $150,000 in the City of Scranton. Through the influence of Colonel Watres, both operations were postponed.

Circular Number 21 of the Priorities Division of the War Industries Board, dated September 3, 1918, put into full operation the supervision and curtailment of non-war construction. In Lackawanna County, the Committee on Construction and Materials was appointed by the Executive Committee with the Chairman and the Executive Secretary as members. It was at all times an agent of

the Committee of Public Safety and had at all times the help of its organization. The business of the Committee on Construction and Materials was transacted by Mayor Connell, Miss Mullen, and the Executive Secretary, through the war office.

The following report shows the attention to detail and the vast amount of business transacted by this Committee; and at a time, too, when the Fourth Loan, the influenza epidemic, and all other war business of the Committee of Public Safety and its various branches, were demanding the attention of the war office.

Record of the Operations
of the Committee on Construction and Materials,
Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety
of Lackawanna County,
September 23rd to November 12th, 1918.

Under instructions of the Central Committee, Pennsylvania Council of National Defense, the Executive Committee of Lackawanna County passed a resolution September 23, 1918, to put into effect in this County the regulations of the Priorities Division of the War Industries Board, limiting and supervising building operations. Chairman Colonel Louis A. Watres was authorized to appoint a committee on Construction and Materials, and Executive Secretary Eugene H. Fellows was by resolution made managing secretary of the Committee.

The following Committee was appointed, with executive power:

Alexander T. Connell, Mayor of Scranton, Chairman; Colonel Louis A. Watres, ex-officio; Eugene H. Fellows, ex-officio; William A. May, George W. Clark, John Von Bergen, John E. Bradley, J. A. Lansing, J. T. Loftus, A. E. Connell, Joseph E. Loveland, Thomas R. Brooks, Frank E. Swartz, Frank R. Coyne, J. A. Powell, Ellis Jones, P. A. Philbin, James F. Jordan, Frank H. Hemelright.

At the first meeting of the Committee on Construction and Materials, held at Mayor Connell's office October 1, 1918, methods of procedure were decided upon, and the Chairman was by resolution authorized to appoint a sub-committee of three, including himself, to transact the business of the Committee in the intervals between meetings. Chairman Connell appointed

the following sub-committee, giving them power to act and instructions to report.

Mayor Alexander T. Connell, Chairman; A. E. Connell and George W. Clark.

The business of the sub-committee as well as of the general Committee was to be transacted through the offices of Eugene H. Fellows, Executive Secretary of the Committee of Public Safety.

At a subsequent meeting. October 8, 1918, the Chairman appointed several sub-committees to attend to individual applications for permission to build, whose reports and recommendations were accepted and followed by the working committee. After this the general Committee did not meet again; for the tragic epidemic of influenza prevented public meetings. Nevertheless, the sub-committee continued its operations diligently, handling every application and investigating every reported or rumored attempt to build without permission.

Thirty cases which had come before the Committee on Construction and Materials, and details connected with each, are cited in this report, which then goes on to say:

> It is impossible to estimate how many other projects were given up and how many people were dissuaded from engaging in building operations by the wide-spread publicity given to the regulations of the War Industries Board by the Lackawanna County Committee on Construction and Materials. It is certain, and within the knowledge of the members of the Committee, that many individuals are quoted as saying: "Since it is considered not patriotic to build just now, we will gladly wait." The great impetus in building during 1919 seems to indicate that many people were waiting for the end of the war to build, repair, and to proceed with alterations.
>
> Of the cases before the Committee it was recommended that sixteen be allowed to engage in construction. Most of these were cases in which the project was begun and was well underway when the Committee was organized. The Committee, after careful consideration, decided that the cessation of such operations would result in unnecessary loss and hardship. The operations recommended favorably, and allowed, amounted in money to about $194,755.
>
> Fourteen operations were disallowed, recommended adversely, halted by persuasion, or given up by the projectors. These fourteen operations, according to the estimates of the projectors, amounted in money to $328,000. It is believed that all of these operations have since the ban was lifted been completed.

About three thousand copies of the following bulletin were sent through the mails to men in Lackawanna County.

Executive Offices,
Pennsylvania Council
of National Defense
and Committee of Public
Safety, Lackawanna
County. Committee on
Construction and
Materials, October 8, 1918.

Lackawanna County Bulletin Number One.

Contractors, Architects, Builders, those interested in Building Projects already planned or to be planned in the near future, will please note well the contents of this circular.

Organizations of all sorts will please take this matter up at their next meeting, for the purpose of spreading information in regard to the questions under discussion as far afield as possible.

The Department of Construction and Materials of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety has issued to the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety definite and mandatory instructions to use every power, including the police power, to investigate every piece of construction now underway and to cause to cease every new piece of construction unless it is plainly essential.

The reason for this is apparent -- that in this time of national crisis every ounce of potential labor, either in the construction of buildings or in the manufacture of material of every kind for the construction of buildings, should be conserved; and of course that every pound of material should be saved from devotion to non-essential construction that it may be used for essential construction. It behooves every individual to regard co-operation with this order of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense, which came to them from the Federal War Industries Board, as a personal patriotic duty. It is not alone the patriotic duty of each individual to refrain from building operation, but also his duty to discourage building operation on the part of others.

In the following cases the War Industries Board recognizes the necessity of building operations, and in these cases the Lackawanna County Committee on Construction and Materials is obliged to take no action.

(1) After first having been cleared and approved by the War Industries Board, those undertaken directly by or under contract with the War Department or the Navy Department of the United States or the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation, the Bureau of Industrial Housing and Transportation of the United States Department of Labor, or the United States Housing Corporation.

(2) Repairs of or extensions to existing buildings involving in the aggregate a cost not exceeding $2500. (Amendment) And new construction for farm purposes only involving in the aggregate a cost not exceeding $1000.

(3) Roadways, buildings, and other structures undertaken by or under contract with the United States Railroad Administration or a railroad operated by such Administration.

(4) Those directly connected with mines producing coal, metals, and ferro-alloy minerals; and

(5) Public highway improvements and street pavements when expressly approved in writing by the United States Highway Council.

No building project not falling within one of the foregoing classes shall be undertaken without a permit in writing either by or under the authority of the Chief of the Non-War Construction Section of the Priorities Division of the War Industries Board.

For those who have projects for buildings which they consider essential the mode of proceeding will be as follows:

They should prepare a full statement of the facts, including the reasons for construction or repairs (when repairs exceed $2500) and the essential cost of the construction or repairs. This statement by the person, corporation, or municipality engaging in construction, not the architect or contractor, must be sworn to before a notary public or a justice of the peace and addressed to Eugene H. Fellows, Secretary of the Committee on Construction and Materials of Lackawanna County, Farr Building, Scranton, Pa. The Secretary will immediately place the matter before the Committee, which upon investigation will make an affirmative or a negative recommendation.

The application will then be forwarded to B. Dawson Coleman, Director of Construction and Materials for Pennsylvania, who will in turn forward the application to the War Industries Board at Washington for final action.

It may be said that all companies selling materials are prohibited from delivery unless their applications are filed and approved.

Correspondence with the Secretary will elicit any further information which is at hand.

For the Committee on Construction
and Materials for Lackawanna County.

(Signed) Alexander T. Connell.

Chairman.

(Signed) Eugene H. Fellows,

Secretary.

It must be said that the Lackawanna County Committee on Construction and Materials was highly pleased at the business-like and courteous manner in which State Director B. Dawson Coleman dealt with them.

The Lackawanna County Council of National Defense had no subordinate committee during the war that was more successful in the use of common-sense judgment and in work accomplished than its Committee on Construction and Materials.

On Friday, November 22, 1918, the War Industries Board removed all restrictions on building projects.

On Saturday, November 23, 1918, Secretary Fellows submitted his final report to State Director B. Dawson Coleman; and the Committee dissolved.

All records of this Committee, and all copies of correspondence, are in the archives of the Lackawanna County Branch of the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Welfare at Scranton.

Waste
Reclamation.

At the very time of the close of the war another division of the War Industries Board invoked the aid of the Lackawanna Branch of the Council of National Defense, in a very worthy cause -- that of Waste Reclamation. The Executive Committee took the matter up and expected to handle it for the benefit of the Cause in very much the same manner in which the Department of Construction and Materials had been handled. Mayor Connell was appointed Chairman

of this Committee, Miss Mullen was to act as corresponding and headquarters secretary, the writer was to conduct its operations as director. Other members of the Committee were Miss Janet Storrs, Sheriff J. R. Schlager, Colonel F. M. Vandling, J. E. Loveland, John J. Fahey, J. F. Langan, Stephen J. McDonald, W. B. Kramer, F. E. Platt, C. R. H. Jackson, Captain William Miller, and M. W. Lowry.

Two meetings of the Committee were held, very extensive plans and a very far-reaching organization were made, requiring the co-operation of all junk-dealers, to salvage for utilization every scrap of paper, every bit of iron, and every tin can, that might otherwise be thrown away or destroyed. In the spirit aroused by the war and war emergencies much valuable material could have been conserved had the war unfortunately lasted longer. Two weeks after the Armistice was signed, however, it was the sense of this Committee that the trouble of saving material that was practically valueless in time of peace would not be compensated for by the amount of waste reclaimed. And therefore the Committee was discharged from its proposed duties.

Chapter V.

War Finance in Lackawanna County.

Liberty
Loans.

"Short are the annals" of Lackawanna County's share in financing the war. The following table shows the results of the four Liberty Loan Campaigns and the Victory Loan Campaign.

	Quota	Subscriptions
First Loan	$6,000,000	$6,265,800
Second Loan	12,876,000	16,200,350
Third Loan	11,100,000	12,288,950
Fourth Loan	22,039,980	23,841,150
Fifth Loan	16,376,000	16,600,000
	68,391,930	75,196,250

In two years these seventy-five million dollars were loaned to the United States Government to pay the expense caused by a state of war, from a district somewhat larger than Lackawanna County, populated by about three hundred thousand people. The City of Scranton, with its 137,000 population, bought fifty million dollars worth of these bonds.

While these figures no doubt tell a complete story in themselves of the attitude of the American people toward their Government in times of stress and crisis, one can not refrain from pointing out how remarkable a service was really performed in advancing this enormous sum; and how vitally this assumption of financial partnership in the Government affected American Democracy. The banks and the capitalists did not buy all of these bonds, by any means. The history of all five drives was in principle the same. Men traveled through the country districts

and sold bonds to every farmer. The employees in every shop, and the miners -- those who could not speak English just as truly as those of American ancestry -- bought bonds up to the limit of their resources. No one in Lackawanna County was without a bond of one or more of the five loans.

No war, and no governmental venture, has ever before been financed in just the same way. Government Bonds in the past have fallen into the hands of the few. There is nothing insincere in the assertion so often made that this was a war for Democracy. It was not only fought democratically; but it was financed, down to the last cent, with the most intense democracy.

Organized
Campaigns.

It was true patriotism that prompted the people to buy Liberty Bonds in such large amounts; but the patriotism was none the less true in that it was "organized patriotism". As the First Liberty Loan was being laid before the people, the Committee of Public Safety of Lackawanna County had just completed its organization; and this organization was fresh in its fervor of enthusiasm. The Committee of Public Safety did not conduct the Liberty Loan Campaigns and the other campaigns for funds for war work. Instead, its whole organization, from Chairman Wtres down, entered every one of the campaigns and threw into every one of them its whole war enthusiasm and the war organization this enthusiasm had propagated and built. In the campaigns for the sale of Bonds, this immense and effective organization personally and collectively was handed over to Mr. Charles S. Weston, President of the First National Bank of Scranton, member of the Executive Committee of the

Council, and Director of Loans for the district comprising the counties of Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna, and a portion of Wyoming.

Naturally, the most effective organizers in the County and the men and women best adapted to public work were members of the Committee of Public Safety; and these same men and women were those who were most active in either arousing public opinion for the purchase of bonds or in personally conducting the sales of bonds. Mr. G. Lynn Sumner, Director of Publicity of the Committee of Public Safety, was chairman of publicity of the Liberty Loan Campaigns. Mr. John H. Brooks was Director of Finance of the Committee; and he was first assistant to Mr. Weston in all the campaigns, and a most able advisor to Judge Edwards in that gentleman's onerous task of taking charge of meetings and speakers in the Liberty Loan and all war work campaigns. Mr. Sumner, for instance, used the publicity machinery of the Committee of Public Safety in promoting the Loan Campaigns. The Four Minute Speakers' Bureau, under the direction successively of Mr. John M. Harris, Mr. James E. Davis, and Mr. Walter L. Schantz, a part of the Bureau of Speakers of the Committee of Public Safety, which was under the general direction of Major T. Frank Penman, turned its entire attention to speaking on the Loans for weeks before and all during the campaigns, at the churches and at the theatres and at all public gatherings, large and small.

Public
Meetings.

The Four Minute Speakers as a body placed themselves for the time being under the direction of Judge Henry M. Edwards,

who, with the able assistance of Mr. John H. Brooks, Major H. H. Brady, Mr. Mortimer B. Fuller, and Colonel W. L. Raeder, conducted all public meetings throughout the County. These public meetings, just before the beginning of the campaign and during its continuation were taking place in every town of the County, every day or every night. Moreover, there were many, many meetings at the industrial plants and at the mines every day. There was nothing exceptional, nor was it an experience of only a few, for the writer to have made eleven speeches in one day in campaigning for the sale of bonds. The management of all these meetings throughout the County, the filling of the requisitions for speakers, the supervision occasionally of the subject matter of the talks, was in the hands, for all these compaigns, of Judge Edwards and his lieutenants. The effectiveness of this branch of the work is proven by the fact that the district exceeded its total quota by about seven million dollars.

In the Loan Campaigns and in the war work campaigns it was the custom to have big meetings of the committees and the managers of the sales, and in the war work campaigns of the corps of solicitors every night during the campaigns. These meetings were managed, and the details arranged, by Mr. Brooks, Major Brady, and Mr. Fuller. It has been said that there was no meeting of this kind, during the Liberty Loan Campaigns or the large war work campaigns, that was not presided over by the President Judge of Lackawanna County, Henry M. Edwards.

Canvasses.

In the first three campaigns Bonds were sold as quickly as they could be sold and wherever they could be sold, the banks themselves doing more than individuals, perhaps, in the actual sale

of these securities. When it came time for the Fourth Loan, which was larger in amount, conducted at a time when more effort had to be put forth to keep enthusiasm alive, it seemed best to Mr. Weston to add a new feature to the campaign. The office of the Executive Secretary of the Committee of Public Safety conducted a census of Scranton and Dunmore, as has been said, and had placed on a separate card the name of every man, woman, and child residing in these towns. A pseudo-military organization was arranged with Willard M. Bunnell, General-in-Chief, Eugene H. Fellows, Adjutant-General, and seven Major Generals, each in command of a geographical division. There were colonels and captains and a multitude of privates, women and men. The cards were distributed by handing them down from grade to grade, Mr. Bunnell and Mr. Fellows devoting practically all their attention to visiting meetings throughout the City and Dunmore to explain in detail the methods to be pursued in making the canvass. The organization was so large and so perfect that a private was asked to canvass only half of a city square. All this is set forth to show what a multitude of people were in the war, right here at home. The canvass was successful; and it would have been a more resounding success had not the terrible visitation thrown a pall over this and other activities.

In connection with the Fourth Liberty Loan Campaign, Mr. R. O. Deubler, now Vice-president of the First National Bank, acting then as the Bank's expert on bonds and securities, and during the war as secretary of the Loan Campaigns, made the following comments:

> "The largest over-subscription of quota was made by the Abington National Bank of Clark's Summit, with subscriptions for $148,850, against a quota of $53,360, or 279 per cent."

This bank is in the heart of that part of the County which first showed the advantages of "organized patriotism" during the war, and from which so much was learned by the rest of the County and by the Council of National Defense. The Abingtons, with its Committee of Public Safety, ended the war as strongly as they began it.

"Other large over-subscriptions were: First National Bank of Avoca, 163 per cent; First National Bank of Hallstead, 158 per cent; First National Bank of Moscow, 150 per cent; Archbald Bank, 135 per cent.

"The total number of subscribers reported by the banks is 108,643, which indicates that 32 per cent of the population subscribed, and the per capita subscription was $71.77 for the district, for Scranton, $130.00, and for Lackawanna County, $80.00."

Victory
Loan.

When the time came for the Victory Loan war had been over for some months, and it was feared that a natural apathy would render it more difficult for Lackawanna County to reach its quota. All the people of the County had been so keenly alert, so intense in their partiotism, so strong in their forceful activity, that a more pronounced reaction might have been expected here than in some parts of the country where the people had thrown a little less heart into the business of meeting the crisis. For that very reason Mr. Weston and his Committee made the greatest preparation for this final Loan. It turned out that the lack of enthusiasm was not real. Our truly American citizens -- all of them -- were just as resolved and just as intent upon seeing the thing through to its very end as thay had been at any stage of the war while it was being fought. They had sent the boys forth -- now they would bring them back.

Reconstruction
in the War
Office.

The war offices had ceased to engage in big, vital questions concerning the war of the Nation. The war was over, Its attention was being applied to the beginnings of reconstruction under plans formulated by Colonel Watres, a few of the Executive Committee, and the writer. Americaniza ion and its allied subjects, Housing Improvement and Sanitation, were the subjects of propaganda. Many applications for discharge from the service and for some species of relief on the part of soldiers and their families kept the office force very busy.

Americanization.

Considering that measures for Americanization were shaping themselves for the future, Mr. Weston and Colonel Watres thought that the administrative force of the Committee of Public Safety could best devote itself, in the Victory Loan Campaign, to following the Philadelphia plan of Judge Buffington, and organize a Foreign Language Division of the Victory Loan Campaign. This was done.

Foreign
Language
Division.

Judge Henry M. Edwards was invited to be Chairman of the Foreign Language Division. This was a most appropriate appointment, since, while Judge Edwards has been for more than half a century an American -- most thoroughly an American -- he was born in Great Britain. Sheriff J. R. Schlager, than whom no one but the Judge himself has a wider acquaintance throughout Lackawanna County, was the very active Vice-chairman. The writer acted as

manager of this Division, and the war office, under the supervision of his assistant, transacted the business of the Division. Chairman Watres and the whole Committee of Public Safety, individually and as a body, put forward their whole energy toward the success of the Campaign. The Foreign Language Division, Judge Edwards from his headquarters, Mr. Schlager, the writer, and a large number of speakers in the field all the time, conducted what was in reality a wide educational campaign. The result in the sales of Bonds brought about by this new Division was probably appreciable, although there are no statistics. The banks that had as customers large numbers of foreign-speaking people reported an increased sale of Bonds; but the writer did not think it necessary to have the salesmen of bonds go to the trouble of making a separate report of the amount sold to the foreign born citizens among us. The real advantage was that of propagating Americanism in a new way under the auspices of the Loan Committee.

The Victory Loan, like those which had preceded it, was entirely successful, simply because everybody worked.

School
Systems.

In all the Loan Campaigns the school systems of the County were exceedingly helpful. They carried home the message, they carried away from the schools and spread broadcast the literature, they marched in Liberty Loan parades, they bought some of the Bonds -- they sold more. As in so many other ways, the fifty thousand school children of the County were very useful indeed. They were fifty thousand, young, of course, upon whom no energy had to be spent in organization. The superintendents of schools

were ready; their machinery was ready. Requests or directions were sent to them; and all they had to do was to send them through the same channels through which they sent any educational instructions, to the principals, and from them to the teachers, and then directly to the pupils and out into the community. That Colonel Watres, in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee of Public Safety, and, following his example, Mr. eston as Chairman of the Loan Committee, were sensible in making full use of the educational system, increased Lackawanna County's war strength perceptibly.

Leaders.

In December, 1918, Chairman George Wharton Pepper asked Colonel Watres for lists of Lackawanna County's citizens who had been prominent in different lines of activity during the war. It was left to the Executive Secretary to prepare these lists, and in regard to the work of the Loans the following list was sent to Mr. Pepper:

> Dudley R. Atherton, W. K. Bender, David Boies, Michael Bosak, John H. Brooks, Willard M. Bunnell, George W. Clarke, Alexander T. Connell, R. O. Deubler, Mrs. L. H. Conklin, H. G. Dunham, Honorable Henry M. Edwards, Mortimer B. Fuller, N. H. Hiller, Right Reverend M. J. Hoban, Charles F. Hoban, Frank Hummler, Rabbi Meyer Lovitch, Edward J. Lynett, W. A. May, J. S. McAnulty, George L. Peck, W. H. Peck, Wallace M. Ruth, Reverend W. L. Sawtelle, H. C. Shafer, Walter H. Smith, Worthington Scranton, Mrs. . H. Storrs, G. Lynn Sumner, Honorable Louis A. Watres, R. E. Weeks, F. W. Wollerton, and, of course, Chairman Charles S. Weston.

War
Savings
Stamps.

The various campaigns for the sale of War Savings Stamps in Lackawanna County were for some reason unsuccessful. The quotas that were asked for were no where nearly reached, despite almost herculean efforts on the part of the three chairmen who

successively undertook the difficult task of selling them. There was not the slightest fault in any of these chairmen, and the stamps themselves were not unpopular. There was, however, a certain indifference on the part of possible purchasers; partly because some bigger movement was afoot all the time and the sale of stamps never occupied the center of the stage. I do not think that any one of the three gentlemen ever had the opportunity to put forth a real drive for the sale of stamps, with the concerted help of all those forces that were drawn together for the big war movements. If any explanation is possible the one that has been put forward, to the effect that people preferred to buy bonds to stamps is perhaps a reasonable one. The Chairmen at different times of the War Savings Stamps Committee were Mr. J. Edwin Weissenfluh, Mr. Dudley R. Atherton, and Mr. Henry W. Kingsbury. The total sale of War Savings Stamps was $1,226,070. Although the quota was far more, that much at any rate was loaned to the Government by this means.

War Work
Campaigns.

In regard to the War Work Campaigns in Lackawanna County, practically the same story can be told of them all -- and it is one continuous story, running through the entire period of hostilities. The Campaigns to raise money for that branch of the war work that did not come directly under the supervision of the Government, although just as important, just as necessary, were conducted in much the same manner that the Liberty Loan Campaigns were conducted. In each instance a complete organization, reaching into every ward of the City, and into every hamlet in the country, was put into action by a central committee. Meetings, fairs, church gatherings, and church congregations were addressed by the Four Minute Men and

by special speakers, immense mass meetings for which speakers were brought from a distance were held in the City, the objects of the campaign were carefully explained through every medium of publicity, immense enthusiasm was aroused in the sympathetic hearts of our citizens, who needed, truly, a very small spark to fire enthusiasm already within them. The loyal and energetic women and men and children went into every household and asked for money and received it; every night at the theatres, every day on the streets and in all public places, at all times, at all the mills and mines and in stores and workshops, people were approached and approached again to contribute.

Again the personnel of the Committee of Public Safety entered into War Work. It was one of the duties for which the Committee of Public Safety had been organized. There was no committee in charge of a war work campaign upon which Colonel Watres and at least some, if not all, the members of the Executive Committee did not serve. At the evening meetings during the campaigns, where reports were made and instructions given, the presiding officer, Judge Edwards, gave dignity by his presence to the whole movement. There was scarcely a campaign for funds for war work in which Colonel Watres did not order or approve the use of the central war offices and the help of the working force there in some capacity.

Results.

The results of the various drives, as far as is known, were as follows. Regrettably, the figures are not complete and they cover the period only to the end of the war.

Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, for the entertainment of visiting soldiers, $1,467.95.

The Knights of Columbus wanted to raise $100,000; under the masterly leadership of Mr. Edward J. Lynett, they raised $151,000.

Under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ralph E. Weeks, the Red Cross received during the war $50,000 from membership campaigns. In one other campaign, on a quota of $200,000, they raised $267,000. In the other campaign on a quota of $330,000, they raised $557,000. The total quotas were $530,000 and the total subscriptions were $874,000.

In the United War Drive the quota was $700,000 and the subscriptions amounted to $867,322.15.

Besides these there were many rather private campaigns, conducted by churches and fraternal organizations among their own members, for work occasioned by the war. It is safe to say that during thewar, the gifts of the people of the County were somewhere between two million and a quarter and two million and a half dollars. Add to this the sale of War Savings Stamps, amounting to $1,226,070, and the vast sum invested in bonds, $75,196,250, and the people of Lackawanna County have some thing to be proud of in all the days of the future.

Philanthropy.

These campaigns, besides subserving their immediate object, which was to raise money during the time of a big war for specific purposes, gave a fine opportunity to work up that very enthusiasm which was essential to their success and to the success of all other movements and enterprises. Besides, they have had a most pronounced effect upon all the people in their attitude toward philanthropic institutions and toward giving or loaning to these institutions. They taught the people to give; and the people have been

giving ever since the war in amounts twenty times larger than they ever gave before. It is true partly because people who never could give before have had more money with which they can be generous. But philanthropies that were financed only by the wealthy before the war are now being financed by a very large proportion of the people, who, having made a personal investment, take a personal interest in these philanthropies. The war belonged to the people; and now many institutions that the people never heard of have been appropriated by them. Since the war it has been remarkably more easy to go before the people with agood, sound, honest proposition to get funds. This is merely one of the elements of public education brought about by the war.

Chapter VI.

The Women in the War.

In conducting movements, in performing real service, in doing real war work, there was no great difference between the women and the men. The women did every thing in this war that a man could do, excepting to go into the first line trenches and actually mine coal. In fact, in Lackawanna County it may almost be said that they performed many more real, practical services than did the men. Perhaps this can be explained by illustration. Many of the men whose names are prominently connected with war activities were the leaders of movements. Their sphere of activity in some cases extended no farther than thinking and planning and bringing about certain results through the actual effort of the whole population. To begin with, every man whose part in the war was a thinking and a planning part -- a vitally essential part -- had a proportion of this thinking, large,small, or entire, done for him at home, whether he knew it or not. Then, the wives of the leaders and their daughters and their sisters were associated with other women in the fabrication of utilities during the whole war. Men whose capacity is for thought rarely produce material commodities with their own hands; but their wives and their daughters in time of war knit sweaters and stockings and make Red Cross bandages and prepare food for soldiers passing through the City; after having done a share of the thinking.

As helpmates of the thousands of men who did produce with their hands, in industries and mines and on farms, the women of the household always do their full share. In this capacity their work during war times differs little from their work in

time of peace. Only, during the war it behooved the wives of all to keep the fires of energy burning within the men, by practical means, it is meant -- by feeding them -- with a much smaller opportunity for doing it well. It was both a necessity and a patriotic duty to conserve food; and the good manager of a household must conserve food without injuring the health and utility to the Cause of the husband; and must take greater pains than in ordinary times to keep her children from the disorders that might be caused by an unusual diet.

Besides the increased responsibility of properly conducting a home, all these women were called upon for extra service. Every small community, every neighborhood in the large towns and cities, had frequent meetings of all the women of the neighborhood for the hand-manufacture of materials for the soldiers; and after spending hours a week at these meetings, the women took home articles to make in time saved by hastening through their routine domestic duties.

It is all the women of whom we speak. Leadership among the women consisted of showing with the hands what was to be done with the hands. The women did not tell other women to do what they could not and did not do themselves. The democracy of war placed them all on the same level. True, the thorough organization of the County for war work emanated from the Lackawanna County Branch of the Women's Council of National Defense. It was an organization strictly for service.

Women's
Interests.

The women were particularly interested in the War Gardens and the movement of emergency gardening, already described, was

a little bit more of a woman's movement than a man's.

Registrations.

The several registrations for specific purposes were placed almost entirely in the hands of the women, and all the real work of these registrations was done by them. The results of the registrations were also compiled entirely by them.

Liberty
Loan
Campaigns.

In the Liberty Loan Campaigns the women had a division of their own in each one of the five sales of Bonds, presided over by Mrs. W. H. Storrs. In the sales of Bonds the women did just about as well as the men. When it came to the sale of a Bond by an individual to an individual, without the question of sale by a bank, it was often the case that a lady could sell a Bond where a man could not, or could sell a Bond of a higher denomination than a man could. Into these campaigns and into the war work campaigns the women brought a freshness of enthusiasm and a new spirit and added a glamour to the whole movement that counted most emphatically in the results.

War
Work
Campaigns.

While in the Bond Campaigns we may say that the women performed a service equal to that of the men, in the War Work Campaigns they far outstripped the men in their activities and in the actual collection of money. While talking about investments in Government Bonds is rather a man's business, persuading people

to give to the Red Cross and to the United War Work Drive and to the Knights of Columbus, so that our boys might have more comforts, is strictly in line with a woman's more sentimental train of thought.

Besides engaging most energetically in the house-to-house canvasses in all the campaigns for funds, it was the young women who collected money in all the hotels, theatres, and public places, in all the stores and offices. The original ideas for raising money by new methods came generally from them, and they were found to be as in the sales of Bonds, solicitors much more certain of receiving money than were the men.

Women's
Motor
Corps.

They conducted a Women's Motor Corps, including in its membership probably every woman who drove an automobile in the City. Under the captaincy of Mrs. Charles H. Welles, Jr., this Motor Corps performed all sorts of valuable services. When any movement was afoot the Motor Corps transported supplies, speakers, and other people. It distributed and collected the materials made by the hand-manufacture of women. Food and supplies that were gathered to be shipped abroad, notably for Belgian relief and for soldiers' Christmas, were collected by this Corps. During the Loan Campaigns and other campaigns they were especially active; and during the influenza epidemic their assistance could not well have been dispensed with. Miss Margaret Richards was a particularly active, enthusiastic, and useful member of the Corps.

Red
Cross.

The work of the Red Cross was almost entirely the work of women. Under the direction of Mrs. W. W. Scranton, Mrs. John T. Richards, and Mrs. W. W. Paterson, women were at Red Cross Headquarters every day and night during the war, engaged in work there, and in sending out work and receiving it; and in shipping it away from Scranton for use in the hospitals and at the Front. Since the war work of the Red Cross was so notably a woman's work, it may be well to include in this place the report of its operations.

Scranton, Pa., December 2, 1918.

Mr. Eugene H. Fellows,
Council of National Defense,
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Mr. Fellows:-

In reply to your letter of November 29th, I think if I quote you from the report made at our annual meeting on November 20th, you will get some idea of the great work done by the Red Cross. These reports cover a period from October, 1917, to October, 1918, and when you consider that practically the same work is being done all over the Country, you can readily see what the Red Cross has meant to the boys in the army during the war.

The Hospital Supply Department completed over 46,000 garments, 2,016 comfort kits were sent to camps, 31,000 knit garments, sweaters, socks, helmets, et cetera, were made, and 5,270 were given to drafted men before they left for the various camps.

The Surgical Dressings Department shipped 225 boxes to Philadelphia Headquarters, containing 485,814 dressings. 18,000 books were shipped to camps and 1,000 scrap books were sent to base hospitals. In addition to this, the Literature Department sent the local newspapers to the camps.

The Home Service Section has looked after seven hundred families during the war and I might add that this branch of war work is increasing and will be an important Red Cross work for some time to come. In the Educational Department fifty-three have enrolled in the conversational French class, and one hundred and seventy-four in elementary hygiene and home care of the sick.

The Women's Motor Corps has covered over 6,0 0 miles and put in over 1600 hours for Red Cross purposes alone. They have also handled 10,000 pounds of freight.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) N. S. Snisher,

Secretary.

A mere glance at the figures in this report shows in a measure what the hands of the women did.

Canteen Service.

Scranton is the most important and largest intermediate station between Buffalo and New York on the Lackawanna Railroad, and one hundred and thirty-five miles from New York -- just about the time between meals. A great many of the soldiers moving from the west and middle west came through Scranton on their way to New York to embark for Europe. After the war many of them came back through Scrnnton. At times a dozen long troop trains passed through the City in a day. Women of Scranton organized and financed a Canteen Service and met every train carrying soldiers to war, supplying every soldier with sandwiches, coffee, cigarettes, and other refreshments. The women and girls who performed this service were divided into details, received information that a train had left Binghamton, sixty miles north, and never missed a train, day or night. After the war the Canteen Service for some months took care of soldiers moving westward when they passed through the City in troop trains or special cars. It is said that Mrs. Willard Matthews, Chairman of the Canteen Service Committee, never missed being on duty, personally, a single day during the whole war.

Entertainment of
Soldiers.

Twenty-six miles from Scranton, at Tobyhanna, was Camp Summerall, at which a rather small detachment of soldiers was stationed, the number there never being more than about five thousand. The women of Scranton under the general direction of the Canteen Service, made efforts to give the boys on leave of absence in Scranton, entertainment. There were dances and social affairs of all sorts, the effort being made to suit the individual taste of each soldier. The fact that the detachment of soldiers was not large made this possible, and the plan was carried out all the time the boys were at Tobyhanna with satisfaction to them and the citizens of Scranton.

Organization
of the Women's
Committee.

Very soon after the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety was organized with Colonel Watres as Chairman, under the plans laid down by the Pennsylvania Executive Committee, the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense was organized. The following was the organization.

> Mrs. J. Benjamin Dimmick, Chairman, Mrs. W. H. Storrs, Vice-chairman, Miss Janet Storrs, Secretary, Mrs. W. W. Scranton, Treasurer. Registration, Mrs. Maxwell Chapman; Food Production, Lackawanna County, Mrs. Charles S. Weston; Scranton, Mrs. George Mitchell; Food Conservation, Lackawanna County, Mrs. Frank A. Kaiser; Scranton, Mrs. T. C. Von Storch; Women in Industry, Miss Helen Newcomb; Child Welfare, Miss Emma J. Lewis; Social Agencies, Mrs. J. M. Wainwright; Education, Mrs. Edgar Sturge; Liberty Loan, Mrs. W. H. Storrs; Home and Foreign Relief and Safeguarding of Moral and Spiritual Forces, Mrs. Everett Warren.

It has been stated that in regard to the different departments and divisions of the Committee of Public Safety, some of the

departments had little or almost nothing to do, and that in the course of time the administration of all but a few of the departments fell into the central war offices.

Activity of the Women's Organization.

It was not so with the departments with women at their heads. They had plenty to do. If they did not at any moment, they went out and found some thing for their departments to do. They found work and they worked. There was not a single dead department in the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense.

Some of the work outlined for them they did all alone; in other branches of the work they must necessarily co-operate with the men. Perhaps it was from the personality of Colonel Watres on the one hand and Mrs. Dimick on the other that there was never any friction of prerogative between the committees of public safety of the women and of the men in Scranton or throughout the County. When it was a question of women's committees and men's committees working together in any general movement, it was the custom for Mrs. Dimick and Mrs. Weston to bring the question at issue before the meeting of the Executive Committee or for one of them to confer personally with Chairman Watres. The mode of proceeding was thus easily planned.

Amalgamation of Committees.

When late in the summer of 1918 Mr. George Wharton Pepper planned to have the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense brought into the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety as a part of the general organization, it may have appeared in looking over Pennsylvania to have been a rather

difficult task. Soon after the assumption of his duties as Executive Secretary by the writer, Colonel Watres directed him to take the necessary steps to observe Mr. Pepper's instructions. It was the easiest thing to do that could have been attempted. Truly, because of the way in which the business of the two committees had been conducted for over a year by Mrs. Dimmick and Colonel Watres, it was already done. In a brief conversation with Mrs. Dimmick on the subject, the writer found that since she and some other ladies always attended the meetings of the Executive Committee, she and all the women of the County considered themselves part and parcel of the Committee of Public Safety already; and that if it were not so, they certainly ought to become members of it immediately.

Office
of Women.

An office was nicely furnished in the central war offices for the Women's Committee, where they held their committee meetings of all sorts after this time, and during which meetings they sometimes conferred with the Executive Secretary. This arrangement of office room and office help should have been made earlier in the war. Miss Mullen took charge of the office work and secretarial matters for the Women's Committee as well as for the men's committee; and the amalgamation was complete.

Active
Women.

As in regard to other matters, Mr. Pepper asked for lists of women active in war work, and we find in these lists the names of Mrs. J. Benjamin Dimmick, Mrs. C. S. Weston, Mrs. W. H. Storrs, Mrs. W. W. Scranton, Mrs. Maxwell Chapman, Mrs. George Mitchell,

Mrs. Frank A. Kaiser, Mrs. T. C. Von Storch, Miss Helen Newcomb, Miss Emma J. Lewis, Mrs. J. M. Wainwright, Mrs. Edgar Sturge, Mrs. Everett Warren, Miss Helen M. Mullen, Mrs. E. A. Cruttenden, Dr. Anna C. Clarke, Mrs. Walter H. Jones, Mrs. George L. Peck, Mrs. A. C. Graves, Mrs. L. C. Edwards, Mrs. William Widdowfield, Mrs. J. W. Sampson, Mrs. E. Palmer Smith, Mrs. T. D. Davis, Miss Lenora Grier, Mrs. Frank Pierce, Mrs. F. E. Gritman, Mrs. Abel Brundage, Miss Florence H. Gebhardt, Mrs. Ruth Antoine, Mrs. E. A. Kern, Mrs. M. D. Cooper, Mrs. Charles DeWoody, Mrs. H. C. White, Mrs. H. N. Barrett Miss May Y. Hill, Mrs. P. F. Lonergan, Mrs. L. H. Conklin, Mrs. Worthington Scranton, Mrs. Hugh Jennings, Mrs. John T. Richards, Mrs. W. W. Paterson.

But such a list of names is very unsatisfactory. It should include really thousands of other names of women -- the war was fought here at home by all the women of the County.

Women in
Active
Service.
Gold Stars.

Nearly fifty women from the County were in active service, almost all of them as nurses or war workers. Six of them from Scranton died in service -- Miss Mae E. Carter, Miss Theresa Collins, Miss Anna P. Gibney, Miss Eugenia Hosie, Miss Lillian M. Langdon, and Miss Romayne Lewis.

The Spirit
of Womanhood.

That we mere men, whether we fought with guns abroad or with ink or words or money and substance at home, call this our war -- the People's War, the War of Democracy -- would indicate that it was a man's war. But we are mere men; and we have learned to

appropriate things because we have been suffered for all the ages to do so.

Just as much or more was it a woman's war. Every unusual thing, every thing of war emergency that man did, or did without, so did woman -- excepting to fight and engage in the more muscular employments. And fighting was easy compared to the heart aches suffered by the women -- the uncertainty, the daily, hourly, expectation of tragic news -- for every woman had some one close to her who was at war, the years and years of mourning if the worst news came.

A leader in war thought ans war action here at home made these remarks in an address at the beginning of the war:

> "I am trying to get into this war, but they haven't taken me yet..... This is why I want to fight. I want this war to be so decisive in its results that it will be the last for America for all time. I don't want my two little girls to have to grow up and worry about their husbands going to war the way my wife is worrying about me now. She knows I ought to go and wants me to go -- but she can't sleep because of it. I don't want my boy to grow up and have to worry his good wife in the same way. Wives and husbands of to-day must make terrible sacrifices -- we do not know how terrible, but we'll all make them -- for the husbands and wives of to-morrow. Let us fight now -- and let us fight hard, for our children, that the women may never have to face another war."

That was in the spring of 1917. It was the women who "faced the war". And they could have withstood -- expected to -- greater sacrifices.

Chapter VII.

War Publicity.

While there was never any halting or hesitancy in the enthusiasm of the people of the County during the whole war, it was essential at all times to keep this enthusiasm ardent -- to bring it out, that it might be practically effective. And it was essential to keep the people truthfully informed. The people regarded the war as any thing but "sport". There was no element of fun or pleasure in it; it was not a picnic nor an entertainment. But Colonel Watres and those surrounding him found many ways in which to make the work of war emergency less burdensome, by appealing to this very fervor. American sporting blood could arise to the tragedy of war; and it did arise to a higher elevation in 1917 and 1918 than it had ever risen before. But a greater amount of service was performed by making as much noise as possible, by having on foot some big, well advertised movement all the time, than if public interest had been left to take care of itself. Publicity and propaganda layed an immense part in winning the war. It is not always true that words are worthless, and that only acts count.

The educational or instructive measures adopted to both foster and build up public opinion, to engender and to keep alive public spirit, were of four kinds; Public Meetings, the Four Minute Speakers, Newspaper Publicity, and the use of the Churches and the School System.

Committee on Publicity and Education.

Immediately upon the organization of the Executive Committee, the Honorable J. Benjamin Dimmick was placed in general

charge of this whole question, with the title of Chairman of the Committee on Publicity and Education. Mr. Dimmick was a mainstay of the Committee of Public Safety and of the people of the County during our war with Germany. Ever beside Colonel Watres during the early days of organization, his sound judgment and ready hand are seen in the shaping of the movements that carried our people through the months of war and of reconstruction. He had been prominent in all civic circles for many years, had served as Mayor of Scranton, had been a candidate for United States Senator, and he brought into war work a mature judgment and keen intellect. He shaped the policy of the Committee on Publicity and Education, and when a few months later he went to Europe as representative of the American Red Cross, he left the different departments of his work in such hands, that under the Committee of Public Safety the work progressed with as much perfection as did any of the other branches of war work. Theg reat names in Lackawanna County, who, together with Colonel Watres, were the Leaders, were Judge Edwards, Mr. Dimmick, Mr. Lynett, and Mr. Weston.

Mr. Dimmick was called to take upon himself a very high trust, that of representative of the Red Cross in Switzerland. It was in its nature a diplomatic mission, bringing with it great responsibility, months of intense worry, and a deep mental anguish. Never particularly robust, past the age of full bodily vigor, the anxiety and the difficulties imposed upon him in Switzerland told upon his constitution. Leaving Switzerland at the end of his tour of duty there, with the germs of influenza already in his system, upon reaching Bordeaux to embark for this country, he was subjected to considerable delay. He was finally able to cross the Atlantic and arrived home a very sick man indeed. Upon his partial recovery he attended to private and public business for a little over a year

and died January 13, 1920, mourned by the people of Scranton as one who had truly given his life to the Cause of his Country.

Speakers'
Bureau.

On November 15, 1917, following instructions of Mr. George Wharton Pepper and Senator E. L. Tustin, Director of the Speakers' Bureau of Pennsylvania, the Executive Committee appointed Major T. Frank Penman Director of the Speakers' Bureau and Chairman of the Committee of Allied Bodies. This placed the question of mass meetings of the public and meetings of particular organizations allied to the Committee of Public Safety in any way, and also the general utilization for particular purposes of the Four Minute Speakers' Bureau, under Major Penman, as an official of the Committee of Public Safety. Major Penman was well qualified in every way to take charge of this branch of war work; and it so happened that he was not called upon so much to arrange for mass meetings as he was to prepare for mass meetings planned by the Committee or by allied bodies.

Public
Meetings.

There were public meetings in Scranton, in Carbondale, in the larger towns, and even in the very small towns , all the time. This statement merely illustrates -- it is not an exaggeration; from April, 1917, to November, 1918, somewhere in Lackawanna County there was a meeting on some phase of war work every night. If one should try to strike an average, one might say that, including the enormous number of Loan Campaign and War Work Campaign meetings, day and night, throughout the whole County, there were from six to ten meetings for every day of the eighteen months of the war. While

there was no lack of desire on the part of the citizens to recognize the Speakers' Bureau of the Committee of Public Safety, the Bureau was simply not needed for all these meetings. It was the easiest thing imaginable for a committee in a country town to arrange for a mass meeting, get its own speakers, and arouse enthusiasm for the particular movement afoot. If this committee needed Major Penman's help it asked for it and got it; but the initiative displayed in so many other enterprises showed itself in promulgating war work ideas in all localities of the County. Patriotism, too, was so trustworthy that no censorship had to be applied to these meetings. Colonel Watres and the Executive Committee wanted nothing better than such gatherings of the people; and never but in the instance of certain undesirable activities of natives of Hungary, did the Committee have any reason to interfere. To these local meetings people came in large numbers. The writer addressed a meeting in Dalton attended by a greater number of people than lived in Dalton, for example; and Congressman John R. Farr and George W. Maxey (now Judge Maxey) addressed ten thousand people at Clark's Summit, while the population of the whole Abington country is less than 9,500. (July 4, 1918). It was all "organized patriotism", and it all counted.

Declaration
of War
Meeting.

The large mass meetings in Scranton came particularly under the supervision of Major Penman's department. As war was being declared in April, 1917, five or six thousand people gathered to hear Senator David I. Walsh and the Honorable A. Mitchell Palmer. The meeting was presided over by Honorary Chairman Henry M. Edwards

and by acting Chairman Ralph E. Weeks. As at most of these mass meetings, local speakers also addressed the audience. In this instance Colonel Watres spoke on war organization and Mr. Frank Hummler delivered an address from the standpoint of the American citizen who had been born in Germany.

Memorial Day.

On Memorial Day, 1917, an immense concourse, over ten thousand people, gathered in Nay Aug Park for patriotic services.

Draft Celebrations.

Early in June, 1917, in Scranton and in some of the larger boroughs, military registration meetings attended in many places by parades, were held. The one in Jessup, one of the three localities in Lackawanna County most in need of the processes of Americanization, deserves mention. It was under the direction of a committee consisting of B. J. McGurl, P. A. Dean, James Sweeney, John Favini, and Joseph Kominski. The Abington Committee of Public Safety saw to it that appropriate exercises, without the inconvenience at that time of parades, were held in the Churches and school houses and at the park at Clark's Summit, in connection with the military registration. Throughout the war it was the custom for the towns to accompany, en masse, the drafted men to the railway stations.

On the Fourth of July, 1917, on July,14, 1917, and on several other occasions during the year large meetings were held in many or all parts of the County.

On January 11, 1918, Senator Dustin, Congressman Logue, and Lieutenant McQuarrie of the British Army, spoke in Carbondale

in the afternoon and to a large audience in Scranton in the evening.

Music in
Patriotism.

In regard to patriotic impulses derived from music, and under the auspices of the lovers of music of Scranton, who put patriotism into their music and music into their patriotism, Dr. John C. Freund delivered an address in the morning at the Dunmore High School, on invitation of Dr. Charles F. Hoban, and in the evening at Town Hall, Scranton, February 1, 1918.

Food
Conservation
Meeting.

On March 5, 1918, a large meeting in Scranton was addressed by the renowned Chairman of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense, Mr. George Wharton Pepper, Mr. Howard Heinz, Food Administrator of the State, Lieutenant Frank A. Sutton of the British Army, and Mlle. Susanne Silvercruys, a prominent refugee of Belgium. Major Penman found in this meeting several elements of management and he conducted the arrangements for it with rare diplomacy. The Women's Committee, Mrs. Dimmick and Mrs. Von Storch, were deeply interested in the part that the Food Administrator was to take in the programme, and they were, of course, very much attached to Mlle. Silvercruys. Mr. Charles A. Belin was instrumental in making the meeting a success. Colonel Watres presided and Judge Edwards made the address of welcome to Mr. Pepper and the other visitors.

Memorial
Day.

Again on Memorial Day, 1918, were there large patriotic meetings all over the County, the largest being at Nay Aug Park in Scranton, with twelve to fifteen thousand people present. Both the exercises of 1917 and 1918 were arranged with the help of the Committee of Public Safety, by Captain E. K. Roden, Chairman of the Navy League.

Fourth
of July.

The Committee of Public Safety itself decided to make the Fourth of July, 1918, an even greater day of patriotic enthusiasm than Northeastern Pennsylvania had ever before experienced. Every one of the two hundred members of the Committee of Public Safety of the County, every one of the members of local sub-committees, every burgess and political official, was communicated with and the services of each one requisitioned; that patriotic enthusiasm of the highest type might reach right down to every individual living in Lackawanna County. As an example of the care taken by the Committee of Public Safety in all matters of public moment -- care that might have been in excess of necessity had we not been in a state of war, the following letter to all these people, signed personally by Chairman Watres, is included.

> "The President of the United States has asked all citizens of American to join in commemorating the Fourth of July 'as the anniversary not only of National Freedom but of universal freedom.'
>
> "The Committee of Public Safety of Lackawanna County, at the request of the Council of National Defense and the State Committee of Public Safety, earnestly urges each municipality in Lackawanna County to observe the Fourth of July on a plane commensurate with the importance of the occasion and the request of the President.

"Your whole community should be brought together, merging into one the celebration of all societies and organizations. It is not necessary to spend any great amount of money, but the celebration should be National in its character. If a parade is advisable, the carrying of the flags of the Allies will be found effective. A delegation of any foreign born group desiring to take part should of course be included. In case a form of celebration other than a parade is decided upon, the enclosed programme of patriotic exercises is suggested, but not insisted upon. Such a celebration should take place out of doors if possible, but arrangements should be made that all features of the programme be given indoors in case of rain. It is very essential that the celebration be participated in by all of our people, regardless of nationality.

"Enclosed herewith you will find a list of the members of the Lackawanna County Committee of Public Safety resident in your municipality. Will you please call a meeting of these gentlemen, together with a representative of each foreign born group in your community, in order that plans for a celebration may be formulated?

"I sincerely trust that you will join the host of patriotic citizens in this County who will take advantage of the opportunity to manifest their loyalty to the United States and the Cause for which it fights. Please let me hear from you.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Louis A. Watres,

Chairman.

Almost all these communications were responded to immediately. To show the spirit of the officials of Lackawanna County and their loyalty to the war organization, and also to illustrate how many of them had made plans of their own of a similar nature, a few of the replies are worthy of this permanent record. It is well known that political partisanship played absolutely no part in the conduct of war affairs in Lackawanna County. The Executive Committee, the general Committee of Public Safety, and the local sub-committees were chosen for what they could do without inquiry as to how they voted. Some of these replies came to Colonel Watres from men who had always been his political opponents. These few letters are chosen at random.

Mayfield, Pa., June 14, 1918.

Colonel L. A. Watres, Chairman,
Council of National Defense,
Scranton, Pa.

Dear sir:

Acknowledging your letter of June 12th, with reference to local celebration onJuly 4th, I would advise you that Mayfield Borough has practically completed arrangements for a parade and flag-raising, including the community Service Flag; and have also arranged a programme in keeping with that shown on your programme.

Yours truly,

(Signed) P. F. Kilker, Burgess.

Burgess Kilker, after having taken personal charge of the fight against influenze in his town, which was very unsanitary and ill-prepared for the epidemic, died in December, 1918, of the disease lamented by the population of his town and by people who knew him throughout the county.

Moosic, Pa., June 18, 1918.

Governor Louis A. Watres, Chairman,
Scranton, Pa.

Dear sir;

We are going to have a parade July 4th in accordance with the wish of the President and the Public Safety Committee. After the parade we have planned to have a flag raising and speeche We would like to have two speakers and would be leased if your Committee could arrange to have two of the Four Minute Men come and address us.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Peter Weir, Burgess.

Mr. John M. Harris, Director of the Four Minute Speakers, assigned Reverend E. A. Herman and Mr. Leon Levy to Moosic.

Old Forge, Pa., June 19, 1918.

Colonel L. A. Watres,
Chairman of the Executive Committee,
Scranton, Pa.

Dear sir:

I have called a meeting of the members of the Public Safety

Committee resident in our municipality and together we have decided to hold a parade and to hold a picnic for the benefit of the Red Cross. We also have decided to raise a Service Flag in honor of our boys who have joined the Colors. We have invited all societies to participate in the celebration, which they assured us they would. So together we are going to celebrate the Fourth of July in commemorating our National Freedom. And let us hope and pray that when another anniversary rolls around we will not only celebrate our National Freedom but will be able to participate in the celebration of Universal Freedom.

Yours truly,

(Signed) M. J. Farrell, Burgess.
Dickson City, Pa., June 27, 1918.

Mr. L. A. Watres, Chairman,
Scranton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

As secretary of the general committee in charge of the Fourth of July celebration in town, I have been requested by our burgess to notify you that preparations are complete for the Fourth.

John F. O'Hara is chairman of the committee, and the other members are W. A. Meehan, secretary, Louis Visnieski, and Dr. H. E. Jones.

Where can I get one copy of the President's proclamation to read that morning? If you have any I would appreciate your sending me one.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) W. A. Meehan.

Peckville, Pa., June 27, 1918.

Mr. L. A. Watres,
Chairman of the Lackawanna
County Committee of Public Safety,
Scranton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

At your request I called a meeting of the citizens, together with the different organizations and societies of our borough; and we have decided to hold a parade, and a lawn social for the benefit of the Red Cross, on July Fourth. We will also raise a service flag in honor of our boys who have gone to join the Colors and to fight for home and liberty.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) Robert Burleigh,

Burgess of Blakely.

And so it was all over Lackawanna County -- meetings, parades, flag raisings, pageants, celebrations. We have already referred to the glorious celebration at Clark's Summit conducted by the Abington Committee of Public Safety and representative of the fourteen municipalities of that district.

Americanization.

In Scranton, previous to the Fourth of July, Mayor Alexander T. Connell brought together in different groups representatives of all fraternal societies and of various elements of the population and of the Churches. The parade in Scranton was simply enormous, participated in by men, women, and children ; and also by bodies of Italians, Magyars, Poles, Greeks, Slovaks, Lithuanians, Russians, Letts, Ruthenians. Some of these were in costumes peculiar to their native countries, and many floats beautified the parade.

Bastille
Day.

The great Fourth of July celebration over, Lackawanna County's most resounding success of the kind, Mayor Connell was immediately called into action again to conduct a demonstration on Bastille Day, July 14, 1918, in connection with the Allied Tribute to France, of which Mr. Owen Johnson was national chairman. Mayor Connell conferred constantly with Colonel Watres and Major Penman and the Committee of Public Safety joined heartily in support of the Mayor. Judge Edwards was Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions and Colonel Watres was Chairman of the meeting, which was held in the open air at Nay Aug Park. The masterly speaker of the occasion was Dr. John Grier Hibben, President of Princeton University. A part of

Colonel Watres' letter to Mr. Johnson, dated July 15, 1918, best describes the meeting.

> "The day was fine until about half past two, when a very sudden and very hard thunder and lightning storm occurred. This scattered the crowd which had assembled at Nay Aug Park. The speakers and the reception committee sat in their automobiles during a very heavy rain. In about half an hour, however, it ceased raining and we organized the meeting. Originally we had planned for three platforms, but we organized into two platforms, and had speaking going on from both at the same time. It was a real inspiration to see the manner in which the people faced the rain and stood at both platforms during the hour and a half of speaking. The speeches were forceful and timely, and the effect was splendid. Many who came early were soaked with rain and returned to their homes, but a large crowd remained. But for the storm we would probably have had fifty thousand people present. Resolutions were read from each platform, prepared by Judge Edwards, and of course were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted. I enclose herewith a copy."

Gerard
Meeting.

On August 31, 1918, the Honorable James W. Gerard, late Ambassador to Germany, came to Scranton at the personal request of the writer, and at the Armory addressed the largest indoor audience during the war. Colonel Watres was Chairman of the meeting. Dr. Charles F. Hoban and Mr. Michael J. Costello were the personal escort of Ambassador Gerard. The audience was fairly carried off its feet by the speaker. The audience, too, had been keyed up to a high pitch of enthusiasm by an hour's mass singing, led by Mr. John Reynolds, before the speaking began.

Meetings
Since the
War.

There were no other large meetings in Scranton during the war; but the custom of calling the people together to hear addresses by notable speakers was a devolopment of the war spirit -- the war made it easy and natural. For instance, as long after the war

as April 14, 1920, the American Legion and the Commission of Public Welfare introduced Mr. Ole Hanson to a Scranton audience of nine thousand people. At that particular time radical socialism was a common topic and a public worry. Mr. Hansen's two hour expose of socialism, thoroughly reviewed in the newspapers, had a marked effect on allaying unrest. And the Hansen address is illustrative of many that have been arranged since the war. People had become used to war publicity; and they have taken kindly to publicity on the topics of peace.

The
Armistice.

The signing of the Armistice, coming just as the frightful epidemic had ceased to be so virulent, brought intense joy to the people of the County. On Thursday, November 7th, just at noon, the gongs, the Church bells, the locomotive whistles, proclaimed "The War is Over". No news ever spread so quickly into every nook and corner of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The uproar was spontaneous. In Scranton and in the towns of the Valley everybody got out on the streets; business ceased; impromptu parades blocked all traffic on the streets; the children left the school rooms. That the report was not true meant little, inasmuch that all people were certain that it was only premature -- nothing else.

On Monday, November 11th, the demonstration was repeated with less spontaneity and more preparation. Even in the homes of the four hundred and fifty Lackawanna County boys who had given their lives, there was the sad, tempered joy that they had died in a victorious Cause; and in that their relatives and friends had not given them in vain. And for the thousands who sorrowed for loved ones lost in the epidemic, there was some thing left to be thankful for

-- a new Thanksgiving to allay their grief.

War
History
Commission.

Before the end of the war, Dr. Albert E. McKinley, Secretary of the War History Commission, had commenced to gather material for the archives of his Commission. Chairman Waares and the Executive Secretary planned to give Dr. McKinley all the help they could. Records of service men began to be gathered; and this work continued up to August 1, 1919. The details were left entirely in the hands of Miss Mullen, and the names and addresses of about 8,500 of the 11,000 service men were gathered and indexed by her and her office assistants up to August. She prepared the complete records of nearly 2,500 of them; and only changes in the plans of the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Welfare prevented the completion of the work. When, in March, 1920, it became possible to proceed with the work, it was seen that the Adjutant General of the State could supply the War History Commission with this material more readily.

Memorial
Grove.

But for the furtherance of a great variety of local movements and for many local purposes, these lists and records have been and will continue to be invaluable. Early in 1920, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Charles S. Weston, supported by Mayor Connell and the Park Commission of Scranton, a movement was begun to provide for an immediate Memorial to those who had made the supreme sacrifice. A grove of ancient oaks in Nay Aug Park was declared to be the Memorial Grove; and a large bronze tablet was purchased with money procured by the Kiwanis Club, largely through the instrumentality of

Mr. Rupert W. Thomas. It was inscribed as follows:

In Honor of

The Men and Women of the City of Scranton
Who Gave Their Lives in the World War
For their Country and For All Mankind
These Trees are Dedicated as a Living Memorial.

From the records that had been gathered by her, Miss Mullen supplied the names of the two hundred and fifty men and women who had lost their lives in the service; and they were engraved on the tablet. The tablet is imbedded in a large natural boulder in the middle of the Grove.

Floyd Allen, Robert S. Alvord, William Athas, Edward D. Barber, Quinto Bartoli, Andrew Batula, John Patrick Baxter, J. H. Bellamy, T. H. Bevan, Fred George Birch, Thomas Birtley, Enos V. Blazys, Theodore Blure, Anthony Boknos, W. T. Bolton, Cosmo Borzellino, John P. Boyle, Frank W. Brady, Edward Brachocki, Harry Brandt, William J. Brown, Frank J. Bukosky, Harry Bush, Patrick Cadden, Theodore Carro, Miss Mae E. Carter, Dominick Casperavitch, Peter Joseph Cawley, Alfred V. Charles, Joseph Cina, Daniel Mabee Clark, Russel Cole, Miss Theresa Colline, Peter Comiskey, Nicholas Concavskas, James J. Conklin, Edward R. Conley, Jr., Robert Eugene Connor, J. J. Conway, James Corley, Thomas H. Coyne, Wladislaw Crihocki, Thomas Culkin, John Joseph Curran, James Cusick, Edward T. Dailey, Theodore Oliver Dale, Edward P. Daley, David L. Davenport, Harold Davis, James E. Davis, Joseph Deane, Frank Decker, Wladislaw Demozych, Stanley J. Detrick, Theodore R. Dewey, Harry Dinner, George Dornheim, Jerome Dougherty, John J. Doyle, Arthur J. Duffy, Frank J. Duffy, Michael Patrick Duffy, Howard Edwards, Earl Eike, Joseph T. Farrell, Stephen W. Ferris, Guy A. Fessenden, Anthony Fialkowski, Carl Fickus, Donald M. Fielding, Frank G. Fiore, Frank J. Fisch, James Flatley, Michael J. Flynn, James A. Forkan, Joseph Forkin, Joseph French, Patrick Gallagher, Charles Geiles, Miss Anna P. Gobney, Joseph S. Gorgol, Edward C. Grahamer, Hugh Gray, Archie Lee Greggs, Barney Grigaluinos, Alfred Hale, Alfred Hall, Frederick A. Hanna, Walter W. Harris, Robert G. Hartsock, Henry C. Hawkins, D. Heal, Gray Healey, Frank Healey, Dennis J. Heath, William J. Heffron, Harry Herne, Harvey O. Hinckley, Charles M. Hollister, Henry R. Holgate, Leo Hopkins, Walter Gustave, Horak, William S. Horan, Miss Eugenia Hosie, Fred L. Humphrey, Edward Huss, Victor Jarvarowsky. William H. Jessup, Albert M. Jones, John H. Jones, Michael A. Jordan, William Lee Judge, Charles A. Keegan, James Keegan, John Kelly, John Kenehan, Henry Keough, Joseph W. Kiesel, Louis J. Koch, Victor Koch, Nicholas Koschok, William Kozakiervicz, Robert Powell Lance, Miss Lillian M. Langdon, William R. Leslie, Henry H. Levy, Miss Romayne Lewis, Frederick W. Lucke, Charles Lydon, Frank Paul Lyons, Arthur Brooks McClave, Eugene H. McDonald, Joseph Emmett McDonald, John J. McDonough, John McGinty, Bernard J. McGloin, Patrick E. McGoldrick, Michael F. McGowan, Thomas A.

McGowan, Thomas McGuire, Martin A. McGurrin, Andrew McHale, Banjamin McLean, Lawrence Malloy, Martin Maloney, John Martinkus, Peter Matulavitch. Elmer E. Maurer, John Meyernick, Henry Miller, Ralph Miller, James F. Miskell, Joseph F. Miskell, John Charles Mlincher, Roger Montgomery, George T. Mooney, Ray Moore, John T. Morgan, B. Morgan, George Morgan, John Murphy, George Edward Neher, George Adam Neuls, James C. O'Donnell, Matthew Mark O'Malley, William O'Malley, James C. O'Neill, Frank Paff, John Pallian, John M. Pallo, William Parry, Frank Partyka, Luther Longstreet Peck, Homer Lathrop Peckham, Walter Perlo, Peter Petronis, John Phillips, Herbert August Pittack, George Plauski, Edwin G. Powell, Frank Proper, Adrian J. Purcell, Stanley Anthony Rabiega. E. T. Reese, John Reese, Rupert Reese, James A. Reilly, Andrew Oliver Reynolds, Bdnjamin Richards, David William Roberts, Mearl H. Roberts, Tofil Roginsky, William Rose, Joseph E. Ruane, J. Rusinsko, Charles William Schlesser, John Scholl, Joseph Schultz, Harold Seeley, J. Semain, Warner Shafer, Jerome Simonson, Stephen Smakula, Fred Hunsinger Smith, John Smith, Joseph H. Smith, Samuel Smith, George Smithson, Norman G. Snee, Robert A. Sprzempak, John Stankiewicz, Clemence Stefanowicz, Edwin C. Stehle, Anthony Stepanowich, Max Storr, Robert Strenbeck. W. Graydon Stull, Richard A. Sullivan, William E. Sutphen, Clayton Dewey Sweetzer, John Thomas, Joseph Timlin, James Timoney, Alexander Tomito, Stanislaus Tumsak, Raymond T. Turn, John Visosky, Charles H. Wallace, Anthony Walsh, Edward J. Walsh, John T. Walsh, Thomas Clifford Walsh, Mark Walsh, Harold Bacon Ware, Clarence Warner, William Wassis, Tony Wasylak, Albert S. Weisberger, William Weiss, David O. Williams, Frank Wisniewski, Harry F. Wood, Harry J. Woods, John Yarasunas, Silverton Yusliawylka,

Friends, too, of those who had given their lives to their Country, were given the privilege of planting young trees in commemoration of individuals.

On Memorial Day, 1920, in Nay Aug Park, the scene of such noteworthy mass meetings during the war, this Grove was dedicated with services fitting to the dignity of its purpose.

The same plan has been followed, varying in detail, in almost all the towns of the County; and nearly every Church and most of the high schools have by this time tablets in commemoration of those who were lost in the service. Some of them, too, have permanent monumental records of all who were in the service.

Four Minute
Speakers.

Early in the war that most original and effective organ-

ization, the Bureau of Four Minute Speakers, got into action. Each speaker of this Bureau certainly did his whole duty by the Cause. It was necessary to lay before the people at large new matter every week -- the war, and the movements for promoting the war, were a quickly changing kaleidoscope. It was not enough to tell the people through the newspapers what the Government, or the State, or the Committee of Public Safety wanted done or proposed to do next. They must read it; and they must hear it, too. People could not go to any evening performance of any sort during the whole war --not any where any evening -- without listening to four minutes' plain, sincere, able, often eloquent, exposition of the war subject at the moment uppermost. Among the subjects spoken of by the Four Minute Speakers was included, of course, all campaigns for funds -- loan campaigns and war work campaigns.

Each speaker of the Bureau always devoted two whole evenings a week to speaking, covering several theatres during the evening. And often a speaker was on duty several or all of the evenings during the week. The speakers were given new assignments weekly, so that habitual audiences heard new talent and the speakers spoke to all sorts of audiences. The Director placed subject matter and topics in the hands of the speakers, who prepared their own addresses.

The importance of this method of publicity can not be over-estimated; and it was carefully organized and perfectly done in Lackawanna County.

The first Director of the Bureau was Mr. John M. Harris, who later became Director of the Four Minute Speakers' Bureau of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He was succeeded in Lackawanna County by Mr. James E. Davis. Within a month Mr. Davis went to an officers' training camp, where he contracted pneumonia. He returned home

just as the war ended, lingered a few days, and died -- lamented as one of the finest young men of Scranton.

Mr. Walter L. Schantz succeeded Mr. Davis, on the latter's departure for camp, and was Director of the Bureau until its disbanding. All three of these gentlemen were well known lawyers. The following is the list of the speakers of the Bureau in the City and the chairmen in the other towns of the County.

Mr. D. G. Brown, Moosic, Mr. Homer D. Carey, Jermyn, Mr. Paul M. Dzwonchyk, Mayfield, Mr. J. Norman Gelder, Carbondale, Mr. Joseph Gilroy, Peckville, Mr. Joseph Hartfield, Throop, Dr. H. E. Jones, Dickson City, Mr. Michael Melvin, Vandling, Mr. E. T. Philbin, Archbald, Mr. William Repp, Old Forge, Mr. T. J. Rogan, Olyphant, Reverend J. M. Smoulter, Jessup, Mr. H. E. Spencer, Dunmore, Mr. Thomas P. Thomas, Taylor, Mr. Joseph Wilce, Simpson.

Scranton -- Mr. Elmer C. Adair, Mr. H. S. Alworth, Mr. Walter S. Buck, Mr. Joseph Burall, Mr. Theodore Bird, Professor M. J. Costello, Mr. John F. Durkan, Mr. David J. Davis, Mr. T. A. Donahoe, Mr. M. R. Denman, Professor Dayton Ellis, Mr. Frank French, Mr. John Greiner, Professor James R. Hughes, Mr. P. S. Harkins, Dr. Charles F. Hoban, Mr. Meyer Kabatchnick, Mr. S. Z. Kaplan, Mr. Delmar Lindley, Mr. W. B. Landis, Mr. Fred W. Lidstone, Mr. H. P. Lynch, Mr. Elmer Larson, Mr. H. W. Mumford, Mr. Richard Manning, Mr. W. G. Moser, Mr. Lester Mann, Mr. George L. Peck, Professor D. W. Phillips, Mr. A. G. Rutherford, Mr. Robert Silverstein, Professor John S. Seeley, Mr. Maurice Suravitz, Mr. James B. Sickler, Mr. M. R. Stephens, Mr. Leslie Simons, Mr. Harold A. Scragg, Mr. F. K. Tracey, Mr. Daniel Williams, and the Reverend R. S. Walker.

Besides covering the work regularly assigned it, the Bureau of Four Minute Speakers was of great assistance in providing speakers for special occasions all over the County and the adjoining counties, when Major Penman asked for them. They spoke, too, in the Churches and in the schools, and at industrial plants and at the mines, at flag raisings, mass meetings, fairs, and socials. They were busy men, these Four Minute Speakers, and they did their duty; for many words are necessary to bring about a single act. Two hundred thousand people heard their call to duty -- a few once, thousands a few times, a hundred thousand week after week for over a year.

Churches.

From the pulpits and altars of all the Churches, patriotism, that is of lofty morality and that which is materially practical, was continually preached, by those to whom we must listen. Clergymen themselves were active members of the committees of public safety or active colleagues of the committees. Literature on live subjects of the moment was always sent to the Clergy; and hardly a Sunday passed that announcements or sermons were not given to the people through the words of Priest and Preacher. This was a mighty influence.

School
Systems.

Through the fifty thousand school children of the County message after message was sent into the homes and spread broadcast. There was no dearth of printed matter. Lengthy mailing lists were in the hands of the Committee. All superintendents of schools and principals received every item of publicity material; and they passed it down weekly or even daily to the teachers of the pupils, so modified to suit the intelligence of the grades to whom the message was to be delivered.

Newspaper
Publicity.

The newspaper clippings carefully preserved by Miss Mullen and her assistants in the war office speak volumes -- they are a history of the war in themselves. More, they demonstrate how much reportorial ability, printer's ink, and newspaper space were devoted by our local papers to fighting the war here at home. Besides giving the news from the actual seat of warfare, column after column was written and printed daily on the activities engaged in

by the different departments of the Committee of Public Safety.

Press information was of two kinds -- that coming from the central offices of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense in Philadelphia and that derived from war movements strictly local. Often the two were similar in subject matter. At first the bulletins coming from Philadelphia were merely handed to the papers, and were printed or not, as seemed best to the editorial department. The local matter was prepared by Mr. John F. Ruddy, publicity manager of the local Committee.

After Mr. Ruddy's departure to the army, followed soon after by the departure of Executive Secretary Stevenson, the writer appointed Mr. Anthony H. Gill of the Scranton Times to this very important position. He occupied the position of Publicity Manager until the end of the war and thereafter for three months of the reconstruction period.

Mr. Gill prepared all his articles in the war office, conferring with the Executive Secretary; and never handed to the newspapers a sheet of press information that had come from Philadelphia. His method was to rewrite it -- give it local color -- make it conform to the Lackawanna County point of view. His own report covers the whole ground.

Scranton, Pa., December 2, 1918.

Mr. Eugene H. Fellows,
Executive Secretary,
Committee of Public Safety,
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Mr. Fellows:

I submit the following statement in regard to the Bureau of Information.

The work of this Bureau for the month of November, as well as for all other months, has been to keep posted on all matters pertaining to the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and other branches of the service; and to give to those persons who call at the office any information concerning war measures that it has been able to obtain. The principal work of disseminating the infor-

mation that is important to the friends and relatives of persons in the service has been done through the newspapers, however, in articles written by this bureau and furnished to the papers, in which was pointed out those things that were of local interest. In these articles the bureau made it a point to localize the matter that came to the office of the Executive Secretary.

Much of the activity this month was devoted to the United War Work Campaign which was conducted in this district the week of November 11th to 18th. Many articles paving the way for the drive were furnished to the papers before the opening day of the campaign. During the campaign we also took an active part in the writing of articles designed to boom the drive, besides writing the news of the drive from day to day. That the campaign was a success in the Scranton District, composed of Lackawanna, Pike, Wayne, Susquehanna and Monroe Counties, is proven by the fact that the District subscribed $867,322.14, while its quota was only 700,000.

Many stories were also written and furnished to the local papers to boom the public curb markets which have proved a huge success in this city and Dunmore. We made it a point to keep the public posted on each of the three market days of the week as to the prices that prevailed in the market; and we think that the printing of these prices had much to do with the success of the market.

The bureau makes it a point to keep in touch with the Red Cross, the War Camp Community Service, the market master, the United States Employment Service, the Four Minute Men, the promoters of Victory Sings, the War Garden Committee, the War Labor Board, the Committee of Waste Reclamation, the Food Administration, the Fuel Administrator, the Department of Construction and Materials, and all other branches that are in any way related to war work, for the purpose of printing all the news and securing all the publicity they need.

We find that the newspapers in the County have at all times been ready to give us whatever space and prominence our news deserves, and we have secured a large amount of publicity for the various branches of war activity. The matter that is sent out by the Philadelphia offices is rewritten so as to give it local color, and we have been able to secure wide publicity for matters pertaining to the Students' Army Training Corps, Soldiers' Insurance and Allotments, the sending of Christmas packages, the need for men in Officers' Training Schools, food and fuel regulations, the placing and lifting of bans, and all war matters generally.

We are now engaged in giving the same publicity to all matters pertaining to readjustment and reconstruction, whether they emanate from Headquarters at Philadelphia or from the local office of the Executive Secretary.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Anthony H. Gill.

In expressing to Colonel Bates their gratification at the methods pursued by the war office of his Committee, which they did without qualification, citing them as examples for other counties, Chairman George Wharton Pepper and Executive Director Lewis S. Sadler commented particularly upon the plan followed by Mr. Gill in placing war information and propaganda before the public.

Bureau of
Information.

During the war and for more than a year afterwards, the central war office was a bureau of miscellaneous information. Discharged soldiers and the relatives of soldiers wanted both information and service. Many a boy with a real or fancied claim against the Government found here advice and help; and many, where it was possible had their discharges hastened or their claims responded to through the efforts of the office of the Executive Secretary. Many questions of local importance, economic, industrial, social, military, governmental, had arisen during the war, and people came to the war offices and expected to find answers there. Miss Helen Mullen had occupied the positions in quick succession of stenographer, private secretary, and secretary in these offices; and made a profound impression upon the conduct of the business of the offices. She had with foresight carefully preserved every paper, document, letter relating to war work, insisted on their retention, filed them methodically, and was at all times ready with information on the most varied subjects. And she was even more ready to give her time and attention to the relatives of soldiers who needed assistance. Besides, October 1st, November 1st, and December 1st, 1918, very comprehensive reports were compiled, largely at her suggestion and through her efforts, which were forwarded to Mr. Sadler. He com-

mended this procedure so highly that he proposed to have the committees of the other counties make similar reports "based on the model of Lackawanna County." The following are the indexes of these three reports.

Pennsylvania Council of National Defense
and Committee of Public Safety
Lackawanna County.
Report of Executive Secretary
October 1, 1918.

November 1, 1918.

December 1, 1918.

All these papers and reports and statistics and letters and general information either prepared by or preserved by Miss Mullen are still extant, and this History of the Activities of the people of Lackawanna County during the World War has been written with these papers and the papers of Chairman Louis A. Watres, as its sources.

Chapter VIII.

Local Government -- The Epidemic.

Politics.

During the war elections were held, political campaigns were conducted, and office holders were continued or changed just as at all other times. Truly American, men could oppose each other at the polls and immediately join hands in furthering war activities.

Provisional Regiment.

In place of the Thirteenth Regiment, a first-rate provisional regiment of the National Guard was organized, under the command of Colonel Leander H. Conklin.

Home Defense Police.

The Volunteer Home Defense Police was a very loose organization, consisting really of the members of the Committee of Public Safety throughout the County, who stood ready to perform guard duty over industries, coal breakers, and water sheds. It was not called into action as an organization. Its superintendent was Mr. Floyd D. Beemer.

Police Authorities.

The police, constables, State Constables, and health officers performed their duty up until nearly the end of the war without any thing occurring worthy of comment. Then came the disaster; and our governmental or police machinery did not meet the crisis.

Draft
Boards.

The County was divided up into ten draft districts, five of these districts being in the City and five outside. The chairmen of the local draft boards were as follows:

City of Scranton.

Division No. 1, Dr. Herman Bessey.
Division No. 2, Dr. J. Norman White.
Division No. 3, John T. Lewis.
Division No. 4, Dr. Albert Kolb.
Division No. 5, Benjamin S. Phillips.

Lackawanna County.

Board No. 1, Dr. D. S. Watson, Moosic.
Board No. 2, Dr. John J. Price, Olyphant,
Board No. 3, Dr. Thomas Monie, Archbald,
Board No. 4, Dr. F. C. Leonard, Carbondale,
Board No. 5, Mr. J. R. Schlager, Taylor.

Influenza.

It is very hard to explain the attitude of the people of Lackawanna County toward the epidemic of influenza which first made its appearance in September, 1918, was hideously virulent during October and November and continued in milder form during the entire winter. No people could possibly have been more active in their patriotism, in their war effectiveness, than the people of our County. Too, their war effectiveness did not diminish perceptibly during the time that the disease was sweeping the County. But this efficiency did not seem to extend to taking public recautions against the spread of the epidemic. It seemed as if they did not want to prepare for it, as if they did not or would not believe that it would creep into their towns -- or they seemed to be fatalists, to believe that it would attack them or not, regardless of any precautions that might be taken. Officials who had done most important

service during the war would not take measures to prepare for the coming of influenza. "Against stupidity even the gods fight unvictorious."

Dr. J. C. Reifsnyder was and still is State Health Officer for Lackawanna and other counties. When influenza commenced to be prevalent in other parts of the country, Dr. Reifsnyder was fully aware of the danger to our inhabitants should it reach the towns of Lackawanna Valley. He was also alive to the probability of its taking root in this community; and since he had in the past made a close study of the sanitary conditions here, and had made effort after effort to have them improved and corrected, he served notice in plenty of time on all borough officials that their towns were menaced by a danger greater than war. His prediction was justified by the event; and had the health officers of the boroughs paid more regard to Dr. Reifsnyder's warnings, and had they obeyed his instructions, a far smaller number of lives would have been lost.

Scranton.

In the City of Scranton the stronger organization of the Bureau of Health gave opportunities for withstanding the ravages of disease in better ways than in the boroughs. The first town in which influenza became of great danger was Throop. In no time it spread into Scranton and every governmental agency was put into operation to save lives and to save homes. Dr. Longstreet, Superintendent of the Bureau of Health, had at his disposal all the health officers, the whole police department, all the hospitals, and several emergency hospitals that were established; including the Scranton City Armory where many patients were cared for. During the epidemic in Scranton Mayor Alexander T. Connell devoted all of his time and exerted all of his power to protect the people from

the disease. He closed every place of meeting of every kind, including the Churches and the schools, insisted that there be no social gatherings, no large funerals; and of course insisted that the saloons be locked up.

The Protection
of the People.

The epidemic had not yet reached its critical stage when it appeared proper for the Committee of Public Safety to exert its strength for the protection of the people. There is, of course, under our governmental organization, no executive authority for a county like there is for the city and borough. There is no central office or official to whom boroughs and townships can look for instructions or directions or for combined policy. True, in regard to matters of health and sanitation, the borough authorities of Lackawanna County should have looked to Dr. Reifsnyder. The burgesses and councils have never looked to the health officer; and the boards of health and health officers of the boroughs have not generally recognized him as an official with power to act and command. As a Physician and as State Health Officer, it was now absolutely essential for him to be in his office, giving doctors and laymen professional rather than governmental instructions, and for him to be in constant communication with Harrisburg.

War
Office.

Because it was a time of war, the County did have at this particular moment an office and officials, without governmental authority but with vast moral strength, the Committee of Public Safety. The Executive Secretary, called upon for help by Dr. Reif-

snyder, left the central war office in charge of his assistant, and spent all of the time during the critical stages of the epidemic in the seventeen towns of the Valley outside of Scranton. When Chairman George Wharton Pepper sent instructions to Colonel Watres to put the whole strength of the Committee of Public Safety into the fight against the spread of the disease, the Executive Secretary could not be found for two days -- he was in the northern end of the County bolstering up the political government in its measures to combat influenza. He had, already, since the County Superintendent of Schools did not think he had authority to do so himself, closed the country schools, he had asked the clergymen outside of the City to have no meetings of their congregations, he had urgently requested the burgesses and councils of all the towns of the County to allow no public meetings and to arrest hotel keepers who did not obey Dr. Royer's order; and he had called into action to assist him every member of the Committee of Public Safety and every influential citizen of the County.

Borough
Officials.

The experience of the Executive Secretary was much the same in every one of the seventeen towns in the Valley outside of Scranton. The borough officials were many of them simply lost -- dazed. Men who would not have been afraid of German bullets or gas, feared this insidious, deadly, invisible contagion. In almost all the towns men rose to the occasion from amongst the courageous and public-spirited citizens -- the Honorable Frank R. Coyne in Old Forge, J. Norman Gelder and the Reverend Warren L. Steeves in Carbondale, Dr. and Mrs. P. F. Lonergan in Dickson City, and Burgess James McNulty in Throop are only a few of the hundreds that responded to the call. Emer-

gency hospitals were established, amateur nurses were found, the foreign born people packed together eight in a room were separated, and some kind of a fight was made to prevent the disease from attacking all the people. The main fault was that preparation had not been made in the past to meet such a visitation. In some of the towns there was no money to be devoted to this emergency, in others warring factions that had forgotten their animosities in war work seemed to renew them in argument as to just how to fight disease. Maybe the most embarrassing difficulty was in persuading one town, well equipped with hospitals, to allow patients from a more unfortunate contiguous town to be carried through the streets to the hospitals. This was in some measure a display of flat cowardice, and in some measure a display of selfishness, in fear that the hospitals might be filled with people from outside the town, leaving no room for the people for whom the hospitals had been established.

It may be that in all the activities of the Committee of Public Safety, in doing what it could to render the epidemic of influenza less disastrous, it performed its greatest service. Practically all the members of this wide organization did their share toward fighting this blind fight. It was no small disaster. About four hundred and fifty service men from Lackawanna County lost their lives at war in eighteen months. During about six weeks seventeen hundred men, women, and children of Lackawanna County died of influenza and pneumonia.

On November 30, 1918, the following concise report -- long enough, indeed -- was sent to Chairman Pepper, under his instructions, by the Executive Secretary.

> The number of reported cases of influenza in Lackawanna County, including Scranton, up to the close of November 30th, was 10,490. A reliable estimate, on good knowledge, of the real number of cases is about 30,000. The number of deaths

from influenza and pneumonia, up to the close of November 30th, is about 1700.

The estimated shortage of physicians in Lackawanna County below the number before the war is 38 per cent. This means that we had only sixty-two out of every one hundred doctors with whom to cope with the disease. The estimated shortage of nurses within the County is 40 percent.

The estimated capacity of permanent hospitals in Lackawanna County is 600. The estimated capacity of permanent hospitals due to the present emergency enlargement to cope with the epidemic is 850. The present estimated capacity of all hospitals, permanent, emergency, and enlargements for emergency, is 1500.

These statistics were kindly furnished by Dr. J. C. Reifsnyder, representative of the State Department of Health. On November 30th the worst of the epidemic was over.

Commissioner of Health Dr. Royer, in issuing mandatory orders that saloons, theatres, and motion picture theatres be closed, left it to the option of local Boards of Health whether the Churches should be closed, and to the action of the Boards of Health and School Boards whether the schools should be closed. In the cities of Scranton and Carbondale and in all of the larger and some of the smaller boroughs, the schools and Churches were promptly closed. It was soon foreseen that the epidemic was going to be much more serious than a good many of the authorities of towns that were not touched by it early were willing to admit.

For this reason, three days after the schools were closed in Scranton, since the County Superintendent of Schools did not think that he had the authority to do so, I wrote a letter to every school board whose schools were not yet closed, which went to the extent of almost commanding them, by the authority of the Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety, immediately to close their schools. They instantly complied, and the future frightfulness of the epidemic proved that the action was justified.

At the same time I issued an earnest request that the Churches throughout the County be closed, which request was also complied with; also a strong statement insisting that Commissioner Royer's order prohibiting public funerals be obeyed. This order was not well received at first, but was adhered to more closely a week later.

Conditions in Lackawanna County outside of Scranton were so bad that the people were, through carelessness and neglect, running into danger themselves, and at the same time rendering the fight against the epidemic much more difficult within the City. At a conference between Mayor Connell of Scranton, Dr. Reifsnyder and myself as representative of the Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety, it was considered advisable that I go into the boroughs of the Valley, invested with the authority of Dr. Reifsnyder and as representative of our Council, to per-

suade the borough authorities thoroughly to support Dr. Reifsnyder in his efforts to curb the disease before it assumed unmanageable proportions.

The epidemic had seized upon the Borough of Throop, even before it became dangerous in Scranton; but Dr. Reifsnyder had persuaded the authorities to take hold of the situation systematically. We inspected the conditions within some of the households, helped the State Constabulary to enforce the saloon order, gave advice and helped the borough officials to establish a clearing house to which people could send for doctors and nurses. It was the headquarters, with officials always on duty, of the fight against the epidemic. Later, under our advice, but without requiring our direct help, an emergency hospital was established in another part of the same building. One of the main difficulties was the extreme dearth of doctors and nurses. Dr. Reifsnyder was able to relieve them somewhat by sending them physicians, and we were able to give them the services of some practical nurses. As soon as the crisis became apparent, Burgess McNulty handled the situation with marked ability.

In Dickson City very early in the days of the epidemic there were about five hundred cases reported and a much larger number unreported. Dr. Reifsnyder arranged for a meeting of the principal citizens of the town and spoke in favor of placing some responsible person or persons in charge of the epidemic situation. I spoke in favor of appointing a dictator or committee of public safety to take full charge of the police powers in the emergency. Action along this line was eventually taken and made the handling of the situation much easier.

In Olyphant we addressed a meeting which resulted very fortunately. The burgesses and representatives of six towns were there, and resolved under our advice to temporarily enlarge by the use of tents, the Mid-Valley Hospital for the use of patients from Throop, Olyphant, Dickson City, Blakely, and Archbald. In Throop they also established a hospital and another in Olyphant.

The Borough of Winton, comprising the towns of Jessup and Winton, was being hard hit and was physically unprepared for the epidemic. Local complications were also a handicap. We had many discussions with all parties concerned and the officials finally placed a considerable sum of money at the disposal of the Board of Health, which enabled it to do effective work.

In the twon of Simpson, with a population of 4500, the extreme distress of the people there was so very evident and the dearth of help so great that we could do nothing, under the dictates of the rules of common humanity, but take off our coats, forget every other part of the County and all other duties for the time, and work as hard as possible to alleviate the general suffering. It was here that Miss Mullen, of this office, particularly distinguished herself in bringing practical comfort to the women and children. It would be very difficult for the person who had not been in the homes of Simpson to imagine how much suffering existed there.

The few doctors available, having come from without the town, could merely rush from house to house attending the sick

and passing judgment on the possibility of saving individual lives. They were totally unable to report all the cases, but ultimately reported about 700. Quite early in the epidemic at least 1300 of the town's inhabitants were attacked by influenza.

After conference with Dr. Reifsnyder, and with everybody's consent, we formally placed the Reverend Mr. Steeves of Carbondale, in full charge until the epidemic could be controlled. With our advice and approval, Mr. Steeves, Mr. Rowland, and Mr. Hiller established on the premises of Mr. Rowland's welding company, a soup kitchen from which all the people of Simpson who needed help were fed within their homes. This alone was very efficacious, because in many of the homes there was no person up and about to feed the sick family.

At the same time the disease was taking root within the City of Carbondale, and spreading rapidly in Mayfield and Carbondale Township. With Dr. Reifsnyder we met a dozen Carbondale citizens and arranged that the armory in Carbondale should be fitted up for use as an emergency hospital for the sick of Carbondale, Simpson, Mayfield, and Carbondale Township. There were objections and various complications but finally this plan was put through. Because of the many difficulties and the reluctance of the officials to see that the law was obeyed, I was obliged to go so far as to threaten to have militia brought into the County. The threat was sufficient. We did not have to establish the hospital in the armory personally, but Dr. Reifsnyder was of great assistance in supplying the nesessary equipment, doctors, and nurses.

On this trip I consulted with a number of nurses and doctors and administrators, and inspected all the hospitals. We found that everywhere the basis was being laid for a sensible organized campaign against the disease.

I may say on behalf of our organization, that our Executive Committee, its Chairman, Colonel Watres, my Secretary, Miss Mullen, who accompanied me on several trips and who helped us continually, did all that we were expected to do and could do in giving aid to the department of health during the epidemic of influenza in Lackawanna County.

(Signed) Eugene H. Fellows.

November 30, 1918.

Chairman Pepper also asked Colonel Watres to forward him a list of twenty men and women of Lackawanna County who had been most active in rendering service during the epidemic. The Executive Secretary prepared the following list:

1. Dr. J. C. Reifsnyder, Representative of the State Department of Health, has devoted every moment of his time to establishing emergency hospitals, supplying them with material, stimulating care, precaution and activity in every locality, and acting generally as administrative head of the fight to stamp out the disease in Lackawanna County. His efforts have brought about great results.

2. Colonel Louis A. Watres, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety for Lackawanna County. Since its existence the Committee of Public Safety has had no greater responsibility thrown upon it than that of standing back of the physicians in their efforts to allay the influenza epidemic. Commissioner Royer left certain matters to the option of local authorities. Our political organization places no real executive at the head of a county. At the beginning of the epidemic the Committee assumed authority and closed the schools, Churches, social and other meetings in the County outside the City. The Executive Secretary travelled over the whole County and in some places assumed the authority of a Dictator, presuming that the saving of lives justified such assumption of authority. Results, at any rate, justified such action. Colonel Watres not only advised, directed, and commanded the Secretary in a general way; but gave him invaluable moral support. Colonel Watres alone made the activity of the Committee serviceable and possible.

3. Honorable Alexander F. Connell, Mayor of Scranton, by his own energy established and manned an immense emergency hospital at the Scranton City Armory; turned all the City's power toward fighting the epidemic; called into council the burgesses of all other towns in the County; furnished an a example to other towns in obeying orders and health regulations, and in every way has proven himself a strong magistrate.

4. Dr. S. P. Longstreet, Director of the Bureau of Health of Scranton, has conducted the Bureau in a wise, energetic, and broad-minded manner during an up-hill fight.

5. Dr. H. W. Albertson, has dropped his personal practice and has taken charge of the Armory Emergency Hospital, working there night and day with help largely amateur.

6. Dr. F. J. Bishop has assisted Dr. Albertson. There have been times when these two physicians have cared for two hundred patients.

7. Colonel Frank M. Vandling, capitalist, has devoted all his time to general supervision at the armory; doing managerial and janitor work with equal generosity and vigor.

8. Tudor R. Williams, Fuel Administrator of Lackawanna County. , has brought the coal companies into close touch with the epidemic situation; and drafted help from them, both financial and practical. Mr. Williams has also been able to import army doctors to the assistance of Dr. Reifsnyder.

9. Right Reverend M. J. Hoban, Bishop of Scranton, without a murmur of dissent, closed his many Churches at the very beginning of the epidemic. This is a more striking illustration of the sterling citizenshi of this great churchman than it may appear at first sight, as it is the first time that any Roman Catholic Church has ever been closed to its members in this community. Bishop Hoban has encouraged the priests and sisters to help in giving fight to the epidemic, in solacing the disheartened, in giving food and money to the poor and needy of all denominations, and the Bishop has at all times been in the counsels of the leaders. In commending Bishop Hoban's usefulness in time of trouble, the writer wishes to strongly advance the opinion that the people owe an immense debt of gratitude to the Catholic Church.

10. Miss May Y. Hill, Superintendent of the West Side Hospital has during the past few years kept a strong hand on the organization of her hospital. In this crisis, so well had she trained her assistants, that she was able to leave her own hospital without danger to its effectiveness, and assume charge of the entire nurse proposition at the Armory, where she has proved herself a magnificent help.

11. Dr. Charles F. Hoban, Superintendent of Schools of Dunmore, has devoted all his energy to philanthropic work among the poor people of his town. He and Mr. Campbell of Simpson are two educators who appear to have displayed extraordinary strength and effective sympathy.

12. Mr. E. J. Lynett, owner and editor of the Scranton Times, has not only turned over the use of the news columns and editorial page to the dissemination of instructions to the public, but has sat constantly in the counsels of the leaders of the campaign to preserve the lives and health of the people. His newspaper has helped the Committee of Public Safety in its plans to help the civil authorities and in its efforts to compel obedience to the law.

13. The Reverend Warren L. Steeves, Baptist clergyman of Carbondale, at the very beginning of the trouble went into the neighboring town of Simpson and single-handed attempted to cope with the situation there. Simpson is not a municipality but a thickly populated foreign settlement contiguous to Carbondale, and part of Fell Township. It is without administrative civil leadership; and there was no organization ith which Mr. Steeves could deal. He gathered bedding, clothes, medecine and food, and distributed them among families where every member was sick. He was taunted, even by the sleek, untouched, "white" people of Carbondale. By the time the Executive Secretary had reached there Mr. Steeves had won the financial backing and moral support of Mr. Rowland and Mr. Hiller. The Executive Secretary assumed full charge and also placed Mr. Steeves in the position of supreme director in Simpson under the supervision of the State Board of Health. It is estimated that 1500 out of a population of 4500 were ill at one time. The misery can be imagined but not described. Since being placed in power, Mr. Steeves has opened a soup kitchen, established an emergency hospital in a school

house, efectually closed the saloons, and brought some degree of order out of confusion. The health of the town is improved. Mr. Steeves has both a soft hand and a heavy fist. He is one of two persons in this report whose conduct appears to have approached the heroic.

14. Mr. Charles L. Rowland of Carbondale, general manager of the American Welding Company of Simpson, has supported Mr. Steeves with money, judgment, and moral backing.

15. Mr. N. H. Hiller of Carbondale, Manufacturer of Simpson, has supported Mr. Steeves in the same manner that Mr. Rowland has.

16. Mr. James McNulty, Burgess of Throop, seems to have been the only burgess in the County willing and able to forget politics and place his town, a bad one, in a position to fight the epidemic. His institution of a clearing house in the Borough Building, to which people could telephone for any kind of help, medical, food, nurses, has been adopted by other towns.

17. Mrs. P. F. Lonergan, wife of Dr. Lonergan of Dickson City, kept things going as straight as she could in Dickson City until the Committee of Public Safety came to her assistance. Politics has done more damage there than in most other towns, and their burgess has been removed. The councilmen were either wrangling or being arrested for keeping their saloons open. Mrs. Lonergan established in her husband's office a clearing house, slept little, and eventually aroused the respectable citizens into organizing a committee to assume charge of the town, rather than to allow the Executive Secretary to come in and assume control, as he threatened to do. Mrs. Lonergan's energy and wisdom saved every one a great deal of trouble.

18. Dr. F. L. Van Sickle, of Olyphant, with the help of Dr. Reifsnyder and the Committee of Public Safety, enlarged the Mid-Valley Hospital, and established emergency hospitals at six other places to care for the six boroughs of Throop, Dickson City, Olyphant, Blakely, Winton, and Archbald.

19. Ralph E. Weeks, President of the International Correspondence School and Executive Head of the American Red Cross Organization of Lackawanna County, has personally and officially devoted his judgment and energy to the cause of allaying the epidemic. He has travelled and inspected; and he has directed the Red Cross in the wonderful work it has done to provide supplies for the needs of doctors, nurses, and the sick.

20. Miss Helen M. Mullen, first assistant in the war office. In travelling over the County by automobile to assist Dr. Reifsnyder and the Executive Secretary, she was an invaluable help. She took stenographic notes of all meetings and conferences, entered the homes of the afflicted, interviewed men and women for the purpose of gathering information, and proved herself extremely capable where a woman was needed rather than a man. It must be said, too, that Miss Mullen

> ran into great danger at a time when almost everybody was in fear from contagion; and that she never showed the slightest hesitancy or doubt, at all times displaying rare courage. At one time when a meeting of citizens was angry, raised a disturbance and almost resolved itself into a dangerous mob, she, the only woman present, was not even nervous. Her good judgment, ability, and coolness place her name high in this honor roll.

This visitation of disease -- this plague, for that is what it was -- did not dampen the ardor or cause a halt in war enthusiasm and in war work. Right through the epidemic war movements, although somewhat crippled, went right on. We must finish the war!

Housing
Problem.

Those who engaged actively in helping the people who suffered from disease had brought home to them most forcibly a matter that had often before been discussed -- housing conditions in Lackawanna County. Some time after the war was over, as part of the new and vigorous campaign for Americanization, several meetings addressed by experts on the question, were held to arouse public opinion in favor of a cleaning up of the small towns and to promote an improvement in housing conditions. An attempt was made to get capital to build more houses in the County so that congestion might be relieved and that people might live under better conditions. The Executive Secretary of the Committee wrote a pamphlet on the subject, called Reconstruction Bulletin Number Three, The Housing Problem, and nearly two thousand copies of it were called for. The subject has aroused public interest on constantly recurring occasions, the boroughs and small towns are now better policed by the sanitation officers, but no wholesale building of dwelling houses has as yet been begun. To-

gether with Americanization, of which it is a very important element, the Housing Problem should be taken up by the wealthy corporations and philanthropic citizens. It is a most vital matter for future consideration.

Chapter IX.

Conclusion.

Thus the war came to Lackawanna County and went from it. The gates of the Temple of Janus are again closed. The honor and credit of having done a duty well belongs not to the leaders of thought and action, but to all the people of the County. They will ever hold this memory -- they could have done no better.

The war has left its aftermath. Industry and business have felt its impetus; labor was never so prosperous. High wages and a more equal distribution of money have brought to many luxuries that were myths to them before.

But the war, too, brought sorrow to homes, permanent disability and disease to veterans, bereavement by a pestilence that was an outcome of war conditions. The war also brought seeds of discontent, grown into weeds of social unrest even in the over-warm atmosphere of unprecedented prosperity.

An era of reconstruction must follow such a war. It is not so much the case because four million men went into the army, served there for a number of months, and returned again to civil life. That is a small part of it. These ex-service men are a help in the period of reconstruction, not a detriment to social re-organization. Many of the eleven thousand who went forth from Lackawanna County have become members of the American Legion; and in the course of a few years most of them will have joined. One of the primary principles of the American Legion is to lend its influence to all sensible programmes for the readjustment of conditions. The American Legion of Lackawanna Coun-

ty is a strong factor in the movement for practical Americanization; and it is one of the strongest organizations in opposition to all forms of anarchy.

The unsettled conditions of the time do not come from the fighting forces at all. They owe their origin to the industrial and commercial conditions that existed all over the United States during the war. They come from the exorbitant wages that were paid by the Government itself; which wages had to be met by private and corporate industries. They come from the unsettled spirit that lives in all men -- employers and employees. An indefinable, elusive, intangible reaching out of the mind to grasp a some thing unseen, hardly even imaginable. Reconstruction theory has no panacea for this grasping after the unknown. The wisdom and coolness of men, however, will in the course of time gradually restore practical conditions to a more nearly normal basis; and then perhaps the unsettled spirit will leave us.

Perhaps the most striking result of the war in Lackawanna County was the development of the use of public opinion and public spirit. All of the successful movements mentioned in these pages and many others, were successful only because they were supported by public opinion and were carried forward with a strong public spirit. Movements that were unsuccessful during the war or since the war were unsuccessful because public opinion did not favor them and because public spirit could not be aroused in their favor. It became almost a profession to use public opinion advantageously; and woe to the man who tries to cheat public opinion.

It has been said that Lackawanna County is a field for the operations of those who would Americanize our people. It must be then a field for the operations of the unscrupulous agent of disloyalty, anarchy, traitorism. Such has it proved to be.

Little outbreaks of bolshevism there have been in Scranton and the neighboring towns. But the public opinion of Lackawanna County, fostered by the war and proved by the war, was so ably led by Colonel Watres and his colleagues, that bolshevism has not yet been able to get a single foothold in this County, which of all others would seem to be a breeding place for it. Public spirit in Lackawanna County simply throws bolshevism without its bounds.

Before the war our people did not know what a strong public spirit they and their neighbors possessed. Since the war it has been used for all kinds of good enterprises. Our charities are taken care of with better supplies of money, our public institutions are supported more generously, our community services of all kinds are better led, better organized, better conducted, and more generally patronized. Our Churches even, are in better financial and spiritual condition. And toleration more nearly prevails.

It would seem from what has just been written that we look back upon the war as having been an advantage. Certainly it is a question that is hard to answer -- it truly was not an unmixed disadvantage. Certain moral tendencies have been loosened by the war; that is, there is in regard to some matters a moral carelessness, a little bit of a condition like that which prevailed in Paris during the French Revolution -- a very, very, slight tendency of that sort. It is shown, perhaps, as an illustration, best in that people's taste in entertainment has deteriorated. People are pretty well judged by the entertainment in which they indulge themselves. War always cheapens life, too; and when it is attended, like it was in Lackawanna County, by the visitation of a disease that took so many more lives, perhaps people's sympathies and sensibilities were somewhat dulled by the experiences of 1917-18.

It is always said during and after a war that the morality of the combatants is injured by their war experience. The writer can not agree that this has been true to any great degree during the late war; but he must admit that this war, managed as it was to counteract that very deterioration in morals, has been an exception to the rule. In fact, it did many of the boys good.

Besides these, and the labor and industrial complications, it is hard to see what great harm was done to a community like Lackawanna County by the war.

In order to provide a central office for carrying on some of the work of reconstruction which was based upon public opinion and for which public spirit was necessary, the Committee of Public Safety continued its operations until August 1, 1919. Later, under the Act of Assembly this organization was continued, as part of Governor Sproul's Reconstruction Programme, in another form, under the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Welfare, with the following organization for Lackawanna County.

> Louis A. Watres, Chairman; Eugene H. Fellows, Director; Michael J. Costello, Manager of the Speakers' Bureau; Alexander T. Connell, W. L. Connell, Hugh A. Dawson, George P. Eckman, D. D., Henry M. Edwards, LL D., Mrs. Ronald P. Gleason, Charles F. Hoban, Ph D., Right Reverend M. J. Hoban, Edward J. Lynett, Charles S. Seamans, Reverend G. W. Wellburn, Mrs. C. S. Weston; Miss Helen M. Mullen, Executive Secretary.

The problem most important to the Commission of Public Welfare is that of Americanization in all its many phases. Before the war it was known that there lived among us a certain number of people who could speak little or no English, and who lived under conditions entirely un-American. During all the war there was a committee on Americanization, whose activity, however, did not get much farther than the boundaries of Scranton. The war showed public-spirited citizens so much that was bad about the conditions

of the foreign born, and so much that was good about the foreign born themselves, that it has become a policy of primary importance to make these people one with us, in all ways, as speedily as it can be done.

The people of Lackawanna County fought the war well. They learned much about their own power and their own ability in times of stress. They learned, too, much about conditions that must be improved; and they look forward during a long future in which they shall do as much to improve these conditions in time of peace as they did to support the boys in France during the time of the war.

The End.

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